

Scots steel threat renewed after US deal collapses

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Proposals for a unique multi-million pound "steel swap" deal between Britain and the United States have been abandoned...

American plants face closure

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The US steel industry faced a further round of heavy job losses yesterday as directors of the giant US Steel Corporation met to vote on the closure of as many as six outmoded plants...

Rajiv fitted for the Gandhi mantle

From Michael Hamlyn, Calcutta

Mrs Indira Gandhi swept into the Bengali capital yesterday to preside over the first plenary session of her party since 1972...

Thatcher to keep on course

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government's determination to hold firm to its present economic course in the pursuit of rewards in the next decade is expected to be the keynote theme of the Prime Minister's new year message...



The Pope blesses assailant in jail

By Our Foreign Staff

Mehmet Ali Agca went down on his knees yesterday in repentance before the Pope, the man he once tried to kill, and received forgiveness and a papal embrace...

Face to face: The Pope talking in jail yesterday to Mehmet Ali Agca, the man who is serving a life sentence for trying to kill him two years ago.

Reagan accepts blame for 241 Beirut bomb deaths

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan, speaking in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief of the US Armed Forces, said yesterday that he took full blame for the deaths of 241 American servicemen in the terrorist bombing of the American Marines headquarters in Beirut on October 23...

Kremlin power vacuum worries President

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

In an end-of-year assessment of US-Soviet relations, President Reagan has expressed concern about the problems of dealing with the Kremlin under the ailing President Andropov and a new tendency by military leaders to make warlike statements without obtaining authorization from the political leadership...

Bargain-hunters out in force

By Tony Samstag and John Witherow

Thousands of bargain-hunters, undeterred by the fear of further bombings, carried on shopping almost as usual in central London yesterday, the first day of the post-Christmas sales...

Advertisement for HOMELINK, featuring a loan quotation table and promotional text: 'Get instant approval on a loan'.

THE TIMES Tomorrow. Ruling... The Times Profile: Francois Mitterand, President of France.

Global cuts holidays by £500,000. Global Holidays has announced a reduction in its brochure prices for 1984...

Ship intercepted. An Argentine cargo vessel infringed the 150-mile Falkland Islands protection zone...

Union rift. The National Union of Mine-workers is trying to set up an alternative to Trade Unions for Labour Victory...

Cuban risk. There is a growing risk of Cuban involvement in the fighting in southern Angola...

Afghan appeal. Britain and the other EEC countries marked the fourth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan...

Reuters check. The Labour Party is to press for Parliament to examine the decision by its directors to float the Reuters new agency on the stock market...

Village rebels. The residents of a Lower Saxony village are resisting British Army of the Rhine plans to build a mock village in the vicinity to practice anti-guerrilla warfare...

Simpler rules. The City Takeover Panel, which supervises company bids and mergers, is to simplify its rule book...

National knack. Burrough Hill Ltd, a heavily-backed favourite, gave Jenny Pitman, the trainer, her second successive Welsh Grand National win at Chepstow yesterday...

Botham booked. Ian Botham, the England cricket all-rounder, was booked for a foul tackle when playing football for Scunthorpe United...

Home News 2-4, Overseas 5-6, Appis 12-16, Arts 17-18, Business 14-16, Theatres, etc 12, Court 12, Crossword 22, Diary, Law Report 4, Science 12, Sport 17-21, TV & Radio 21, Universities 22, Weather 22.

Scargill leads move to replace unions' political finance body

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Political warfare has broken out within Trade Unions for Labour Victory, the umbrella body formed to channel cash to the Labour Party to fight general and local elections.

The National Union of Mineworkers has invited "interested persons and organizations" to quit the TULV and join a rival concern dedicated to the left-wing 1983 election manifesto and Labour Party conference decisions.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the NUM, said last night: "I stand by the union's position on TULV". This is contained in a three-page confidential circular to other militant unions warning them that the fund-raising body "is bringing financial and political pressure to bear on the Labour Party to amend policy".

His hardline initiative has been condemned by union moderates as "clearly intended to be highly divisive", but Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, has also asked the miners: "Do we smell a witch-hunt here?"

Mr David Bassett, chairman of the TULV and general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trade Union, has asked for a meeting with the mineworkers' national executive to discuss the breakdown move, which could cause the five-year-old organization to founder.

So far, the miners have not replied, although the NUM circular makes specific charges despite denials that Trade Unions for Labour Victory is a policy-making body.

The Scargill letter claims that TULV leaders met in the House of Commons to ensure that there was no contested election for the leader-deputy leader of the Labour Party in election year.

They had also met Mr James Mortimer, general secretary of the party, to tell him that there should be no increase in trade union affiliation fees and "as a result no motion was discussed on trade union contribution" at this year's conference, it is claimed.

The miners further allege: "The TULV is an alternative service of funding for the Labour Party, and as such can determine how to grant money to the party and on what terms. This power over the purse strings has frequently led to discussions between the TULV and Mr Mortimer on matters of policy."

All these charges are hotly denied in a circular prepared by the TULV executive which is being sent to constituent unions. It insists that there has been no coordination of votes about the party leadership and describes as "totally false" the allegation that the unions' power over the purse strings has led to policy talks with party officials.

The NUM document discloses that the miners' executive has "decided to authorize the national officials to conduct discussions with other interested parties and organizations to provide the necessary machinery whereby the role of

the TULV may be superfluous, and unity can be sought on the basis of the 1983 manifesto and Labour Party conference decisions".

The miners' initiative is so far falling on stony ground. Moderates who dominate the TULV executive committee say that the creation of a rival organization would be "seriously unhelpful at a time when the party is being reestablished, and when the TULV has preserved trade union unity throughout the past four years".

It seems certain, however, that Mr Scargill will continue sniping at the unions' political cash organization, which has already suffered the defection of the right-wing Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers on grounds embarrassingly similar to the charges made by the NUM.

The Scargill papers disclose that the TULV received an income from affiliated unions of £235,000 in 1981-82 and £306,000 in 1982-83. Its cash flow in the half-year to August 31, this year, was £450,000, and the TULV has lent £250,000 to the Labour Party.

The mineworkers have until recently had observer status within the TULV, and received relevant documents from it, but even that connexion has been severed in the wake of NUM allegations that regional TULV bodies have actively campaigned against the selection of certain candidates and elsewhere have used their financial clout to influence regional parties. Those charges are also denied.

This internal conflict is bound to embarrass Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, who wants an end to fratricidal activity within the party.

Antagonists: Mr Scargill (left) and Mr Mostyn Evans, who suspects a witch-hunt by the miners.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is coming under fresh pressure from Conservative MPs to review the operation of the Obscene Publications Act.

MPs are complaining that the present obscenity law is resulting in insufficient convictions and is easy to evade.

It is pointed out that a situation has arisen in which, although the Government has given councils powers to close sex shops under local planning powers, equally offensive material can be bought over the

counter at other shops in some areas.

Mr Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, said yesterday: "The Obscene Publications Act needs desperately to be reviewed. The definition of what is obscene needs to be more flexible because at present juries have to decide whether material is likely to deprave or corrupt, and that is the sticking point."

MPs plan to raise the issue at private meetings with Mr Brittan.

The Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland appealed yesterday to British Shipbuilders and Britoil to avert the loss of more than 4,000 jobs at Scott Lithgow's.

The Lower Clyde side yard faces closure because of Britoil's cancellation of an £86m oil rig order.

The churches, in a joint statement, said: "For the sake of many thousands of people in the west of Scotland, we

earnestly request you to discuss urgently terms for the resumption of building exploration rig contract 3002 at Scott Lithgow's."

British cancelled the order last week. The rig should have been delivered next spring, but it is estimated to be up to 500 days behind schedule. British Shipbuilders said afterwards that it could not afford penalty payments.

Letters, Page 11



Early risers: Snow drops (*Galanthus Caucasicus*) flowering in the rock garden at Kew Gardens, west London, yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

Labour may seek safeguard for Reuters

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party is to press for an examination by Parliament of the decision by directors of Reuters, the international news agency and financial information service, to float the company on the stock market next year.

One proposal being discussed within the party is that Reuters should be turned into a statutory corporation like the BBC to safeguard it against the risk of falling into undesirable or foreign hands.

The decision by Reuters on December 14 to seek a listing for its shares on the Stock Exchange came after lengthy arguments among the board members and opposition from Labour MPs, led by Mr James Callaghan, the former Prime Minister.

The company is thought to have a market value of more than £1,000m, and a floatation would bring big gains to Fleet Street newspaper groups, provincial newspapers, and newspapers in New Zealand and Australia.

Under the terms of the Reuters Trust agreement, the trustees are responsible for ensuring that it does not pass into the hands of any single interest or group, and that its integrity and freedom from bias are preserved.

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, when questioned in the Commons last month, said that he had no responsibility to intervene.

Mr Bryan Gould, a Labour frontbench spokesman on trade and industry, said yesterday: "Now that the flotation may take place in the early months of 1984 it is important that Parliament should look at the issue urgently."

He said that the trust which had been formed to safeguard Reuters came about mainly as a result of parliamentary pressure. "Now we are told that the trust can be broken

"This was regarded as a matter of extreme urgency in 1941. It is just as important now. That is why we may have to consider statutory protection for Reuters providing a framework similar to that provided for the BBC."

Mr Gould also called for a Commons debate on the concentration of ownership in the national and provincial press. "This concentration has shown that the various Acts to prevent monopolies and create conditions of fair trading are totally useless", he said.

Anger over TV film on bombing

From Our Correspondent, Llandudno

An MEP is protesting to the BBC about a programme about John Jenkins, a former army sergeant who was jailed for 10 years for his part in the bombing campaign before the investiture of the Prince of Wales in 1969.

The programme, *The Extremists*, is to be shown on BBC Wales tomorrow night, but Miss Beata Brookles, Conservative European MP for North Wales, said yesterday: "I think it is appalling that just after the Harrods carnage a film like this should be shown."

"This man Jenkins decries the Royal Family, there is talk of a threat to blow them up, and claims that an assassination squad existed. It is quite vicious stuff."

"If the BBC thought it right to apologize for playing *The Mountains of Mourne* the day after the Harrods bombing, it should show equal sensitivity and take off this film."

The dramatized documentary, which is at hour and a half long, was made with Jenkins's cooperation after his release from prison. He is now serving two years at Dartmoor for harboring the arrest of a wanted man.

The BBC said yesterday: "The *Extremists* is a programme which has been completed for some time, but we were unable to show it because of the conspiracy trial in Cardiff and other events."

"Although it is a play based on real events which happened in Wales, they are events which occurred a decade and a half ago. Unfortunately, terrorist activities appear to be still with us but there is no connexion between events portrayed in the film and the recent tragedy in London. Indeed the film does serve as a warning of the consequences of such activities."

TUC wants action on tax evaders

By Our Labour Editor

The Government is accused today of being more zealous in prosecuting poor social security scroungers than rich tax dodgers.

In a report to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the TUC demands tougher action against all forms of tax evasion, including publication of the names of defaulters operating in the "black economy" thought to be worth £6,500m a year.

Union leaders involved in tax administration say in a 4,000-word document that many people on low incomes are having to pay excessive tax because of evasion by the better-off.

"No other EEC country taxes its low-income citizens so heavily. There has also been a dramatic increase in the number of people depending on means-tested benefits, with 6.5 million people now claiming supplementary benefit."

But tax evasion and avoidance have continued to grow, the TUC argues, and "there is a popular view that the black economy represents a dynamic and innovative sector of the economy as a whole."

Quoting the Keith committee report on tax reform, the TUC says that that is being "penny-wise, pound foolish" because these investors generally yield returns of four to five times the cost of their salaries.

RAF saves sheep from flood

By Our Labour Editor

An RAF helicopter rescued two estate workers and 13 sheep stranded by a flash flood at Loch Maree in Wester Ross yesterday.

Mr Archie MacLellan, an estate manager, and his son-in-law, Mr David Price, were trying to reach the sheep in a small boat, but their engine failed. The Lossiemouth helicopter picked up the two men, then took them to the animals, which were loaded into a net slung under the helicopter and rescued in two flights.

Flooding blocked three main roads yesterday with the Highlands the worst affected by rain and high winds.

On the A82 Inverness to Fort William road, two landslides blocked the route at Letterfinlay and Part of the road surface was swept away. Flooding and subsidence also blocked the Locharron road and the Kyle road and serious floods were reported at the Loch Ness village of Fort Augustus.

But in North Wales, the weather was so mild that people sat in the sunshine on the sea front at Colwyn Bay.

Forecast, back page

Prisoners protest over parole

By Our Political Reporter

Two prisoners are staging a rooftop protest at Long Lartin maximum security prison near Evesham, Hereford and Worcester. They climbed up on Monday with the help of other prisoners, and are huddled in a crude shelter on top of a water tower.

The men, Mark Leech, aged 26, who has served a year of a five-year sentence for theft and wounding with intent, and Stephen Robson, aged 25, jailed for nine years last June for robbery and possessing a firearm, are protesting at the Home Secretary's decision not to give parole to prisoners serving long sentences for violence.

Two prisoners who escaped from Stafford jail late on Monday, were recaptured in Madeley, Staffordshire, yesterday. Terry Kirk, aged 38, and Keith Lane, aged 19, had used sheets knotted together to scale the perimeter wall.

Kirk has served six months of a 57-month prison sentence for incest, burglary, and possessing a firearm. Lane had served three months of a two-year sentence for burglary.

Tories urge review of obscenity law

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, is coming under fresh pressure from Conservative MPs to review the operation of the Obscene Publications Act.

MPs are complaining that the present obscenity law is resulting in insufficient convictions and is easy to evade.

It is pointed out that a situation has arisen in which, although the Government has given councils powers to close sex shops under local planning powers, equally offensive material can be bought over the

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SAS increases checks on potential trouble spots

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Forces of the Army's Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) and the Royal Marines' Special Boat Squadron have increased their activities of surveying possible trouble areas around the world.

It is one of their long-standing tasks to be acquainted with areas where they could become involved militarily. That means being aware of the location of possible parachute or aircraft landing sites, checking which beaches are suitable for amphibious landings, and knowing the location of politically sensitive buildings.

It is believed that the level of activity has been increased because of fears that many Commonwealth islands have so little defensive capability that they could be seized.

The kind of event which caused anxiety is thought to have been evidence of plans by mercenary groups to organize coups d'etat in the Seychelles. In 1981, there were reports of support of the Government of Sir Dawda Jawara, President of Gambia, after an attempted coup.

More than 1,200 search for Tidey kidnapers

By Our Defence Correspondent

More than 1,200 police and troops were drafted into Derrada wood, outside Ballinamore in Co Leitrim, yesterday in a final search for the kidnapers of Mr Don Tidey, aged 49, the chairman of the IRA.

While police chiefs are conceding that the IRA kidnap squad has eluded the biggest security operation mounted in the Irish Republic, officers still believed that there might be vital forensic science evidence to be found.

Fingerprint experts were examining beer cans and tins of food found in the underground dugout where Mr Tidey was

held captive for 23 days. He was freed in a gunbattle 12 days ago in which a soldier and a police trainee died.

A police spokesman said last night: "We cannot afford to leave any stone unturned. Forensic science evidence could be vital in identifying the gang."

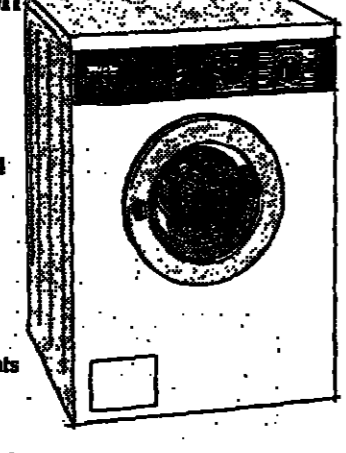
Meanwhile, Mr Garrett Fitzgerald, Prime Minister of the Republic, is preparing for a Cabinet meeting next week at which overall security will be reviewed.

In the past two months, Dominic McClinton, the INLA terrorist leader, has evaded capture three times

HARRODS SALE

Great Reductions on MIELE Household Appliances

Example illustrated: Washing Machine Model W754 Dual switch control. 900rpm spin. Economy programmes. Half-load button. White. 85 x 60 x 60cm. Made in West Germany. Harrods Original Price £556. Sale Price £439. Interest-free Credit £43.90 deposit and 9 monthly payments of £43.90 each. Total credit price £439.



Not shown: Tumble Dryer T366 Single switch control. Electric sensor monitoring. Anti-crease action. Automatic reversing action. 85 x 60 x 60cm. Made in West Germany. Harrods Original Price £445. Sale Price £385. Major Household Appliances. Cooks Way Second Floor. Carriage free within our own delivery area. All reductions are from Harrods previous prices.

INTEREST-FREE CREDIT AGREEMENTS with 10 monthly payments, including deposit, available on many single items over £100; see example given above. Ask for written details. Sale Opening Hours: Until Saturday 14th January 9am to 6pm. Wednesday 9am to 7pm. From then on, 9am to 5pm daily. Wednesdays 9am to 7pm. Saturdays 9am to 6pm.

SALE STARTS FRIDAY 6TH JANUARY 9AM TO 6PM



Moscow leads world shipping

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

The Soviet Union has overtaken both Britain and the United States as a merchant shipping power on the world's oceans for the first time.

While Britain's fleet has been steadily declining since the mid-1970s the Soviet Union's has been forging ahead and the latest figures from Lloyd's Register of Shipping show 25 million tonnes under the Soviet flag, 19 million under the British and 19 million under the United States.

Ten years ago Britain had nearly twice as much merchant shipping as the Soviet Union, more than 30 million tonnes against 1 million - and two years ago Britain was still ahead with 25 million tonnes against the Soviet Union's 23 million.

House prices in Scotland are set to rise by between 5 per cent and 10 per cent in the next three months, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says today.

But it gives a warning that there will be no price boom without a lasting upturn in the economy.

In its quarterly market report published today, Scottish estate agents predict a recession of last

Frigates cost £80m to refit

By Our Defence Correspondent

It is now costing £80m to modernise a Royal Navy frigate. This is only £20m less than the price at which the navy is hoping to build the first of its entirely new class of Type 23 frigates.

Facts given by Mr John Lee, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Defence Procurement, in a written answer in the Commons, show that the cost of a mid-life refit of a Leander class frigate has risen from about £30m for ships which completed their refit in 1980 to about £80m each for HMS Hermione and HMS Scyllia which began their modernization programmes in that year, and complete this month and in mid-1985 respectively.

This huge cost escalation adds point to the decision announced in June 1981 by Sir John Nott, then Defence Secretary, to end the practice of mid-life modernization. At that time he put the cost at £70m per ship.

The Queen has invited Dr Billy Graham, the US evangelist, to preach at Sandringham parish church on January 15, during the Royal Family's new year holiday on the estate. At least 10,000 people are expected to hear his sermon relayed by loudspeakers.

Overseas selling prices: Australia \$2.20, Belgium 2 Fr 80, Canada \$2.75, Denmark 2.10, France 2.50, Germany 2.50, Greece 2.50, Hong Kong 2.50, Italy 2.50, Japan 2.50, Korea 2.50, Luxembourg 2.50, Netherlands 2.50, New Zealand 2.50, Norway 2.50, Portugal 2.50, Spain 2.50, Sweden 2.50, Switzerland 2.50, Taiwan 2.50, Thailand 2.50, United States 2.50, Yugoslavia 2.50.

For the price of her nurse's uniform, you could save 98 children from polio.

One dose of polio vaccine costs 2p. But in the shanty towns of the Third World, hundreds of families haven't even got that.

Living amongst rotting garbage, in shacks built from old tins and cardboard. Using germ infested pit latrines. And not having water to wash themselves. Watching their children grow weak from malnutrition. And sometimes watching them die.

At Oxfam, we're supporting special projects to help these desperate children.

To safeguard their future, immunisation is crucial. But we're also providing basic sanitation. And training local people in health, hygiene and nutrition.

A gift from you, however small, could save a young life. Send one today. (Mr Guy Stringer, Oxfam, Room TW7, Freepost, Oxford OX2 7BR. For credit card donations, ring 0865 58916.)

Because Christmas should always be for children. OXFAM logo.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "Globe 1983", "MP pre on hare", "Uno voted n", "New age", and "computer age is".

Handwritten text at the bottom center: "مركز من الاصل"

Global takes more than £500,000 off 1984 holiday prices

By Robin Young

At the outset of the peak booking season for summer holidays, Global Holidays announced yesterday that it was reducing its brochure prices for next year by a total of more than £500,000. It has reprinted its brochure, with lower prices for holidays at 83 hotels in Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Greece.

The biggest saving offered is more than £100 a person for two weeks at a hotel in Majorca, but many holidays will be about £50 cheaper than last year's prices.

That is the latest move in a price-cutting war that began at the end of November when Thomson Holidays, the market leader, announced cuts of up to £56, an average of 10 per cent, on 750,000 of its one million foreign summer holidays for sale.

Intasun, the second largest company, delayed launching its brochure until December, and then announced an average of 9 per cent reductions on 500,000 holidays. Horizon, the third largest operator, followed suit.

Global has not previously revised its published brochure, but this year it restricted the initial print order in expectation of having to respond to price cuts announced by larger competitors.

Mr Roger Corkhill, managing director of Global, had accused Thomson's of provoking a price war in the battle for holiday bookings. Yesterday, he said that the strength of the pound against Mediterranean currencies had helped to reduce prices, but that most of the difference would have to come out of profit margins. Global, which is the country's tenth biggest tour operator, hope to sell 250,000 holidays this summer.

As with previously announced price revisions, holidaymakers who have already made their bookings will also benefit from the price reductions.

The travel industry is now fully committed to selling more than eight million foreign holidays this year, well up on previous totals.

Mr Richard Gabber, managing director of Pickfords Travel, which sells more Global Holidays than any other travel agents, said yesterday that overall bookings for foreign holidays next summer are up by a fifth on the same stage last year.

The late launch of the Intasun brochure caused a dip in sales in November, but in the four weeks before Christmas sales were almost half as many again as in the equivalent period last year.

"In the pattern of trade that has evolved this year," Mr Gabber said, "customers can book early in the knowledge that their chosen holiday can only get cheaper if there are further price cuts. This is a complete reversal on previous years when people were tempted to book early by low prices, and then companies levied surcharges to meet their costs. This has to be good news for everybody."

One large operator not to have revised its brochure prices is Cosmos, the fourth largest. Cosmos lost some of its share of the market last summer, but is felt to have produced a competitively priced brochure at the first attempt this year, offering many holidays in Italy and Spain where currency weaknesses bring the strongest price advantages.

A spokesman for the Thomson said yesterday that the company would have sold 300,000 holidays by the end of this month, 50 per cent up on last year. "We expect the industry as a whole to sell a million extra foreign holidays this year. The fact that holidays are cheaper is substantially due to stable fuel costs and the comparative strength of the pound."

"We expect our own bookings to be a quarter up on last year."

MP fears slide to random breath tests

By a Staff Reporter

A Conservative MP complained yesterday that the police had been "hounding" motorists during the Christmas holiday with unjustified breath tests.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, said that he would ask the Government for the number of breath tests conducted by all police forces and for an assurance that they were not quietly moving towards random tests.

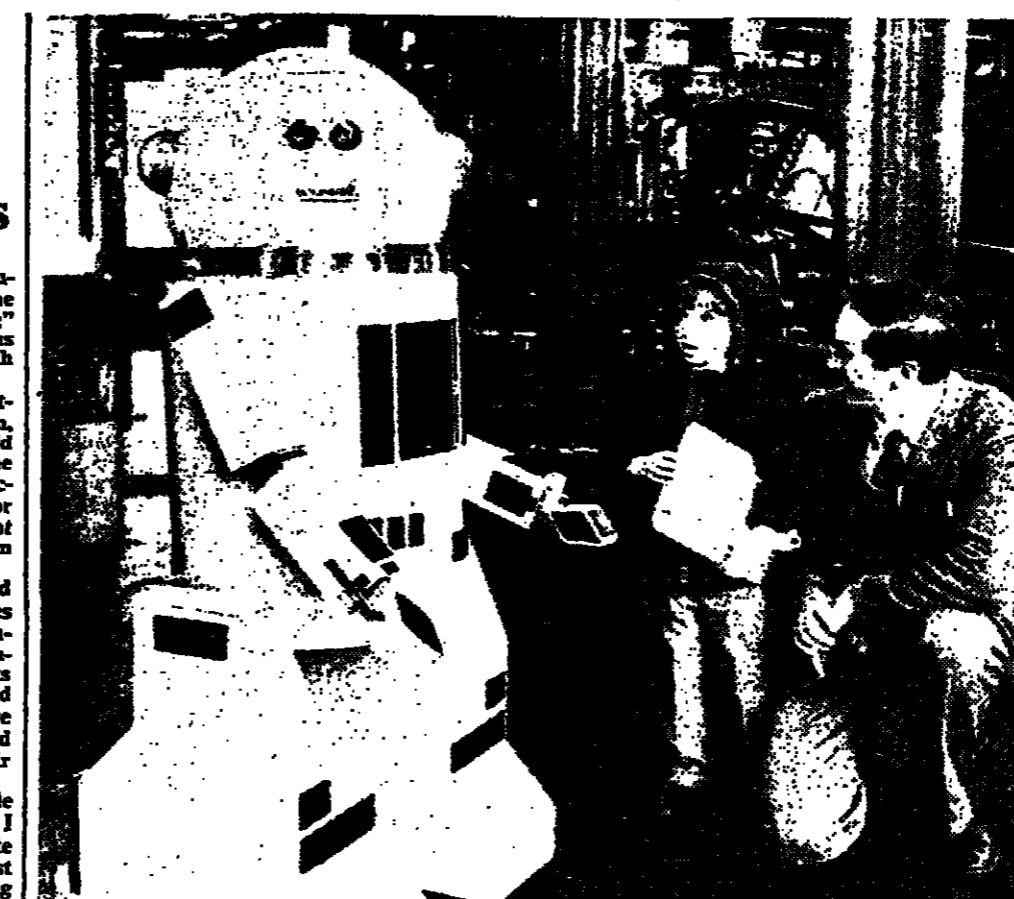
Parliament had rejected random tests, but some forces seemed to use pretexts unconnected with suspicion of drunken driving to stop motorists and test them. "I have a horrid suspicion that the police are enforcing their own law instead of Parliament's law," Mr Beaumont-Dark said.

"I am not in favour of people drinking and driving, but I think we have been in a state this Christmas when most motorists have felt like hiding behind a hedge when a police car has come along."

Two people died and 16 were seriously injured in road accidents in Nottinghamshire during the Christmas holiday compared with four and 26 this time last year. Last year 1,700 breath tests were conducted in the county and 54 proved positive. This year there were 2,500 of which 46 were positive.

The number of drivers who gave positive breath tests in Strathclyde region over the four days of the Christmas holidays almost doubled on last year's figures. A total of 88 drivers, of 130 tested, were found to be driving over the legal limit between December 23 and 26, compared with 49 positive last year.

Lothian and Borders police recorded 11 positive breath tests between December 24 and 26, compared with 28 positive tests last year. Tayside police recorded 11 positive tests compared with 20.



Walkie talkie: Samuel Woodward and his father meeting Denby, the walking, talking robot at the British Engineering in Hove, East Sussex, yesterday. Denby was part of the welcoming party at the museum's "in-steam" exhibition, which runs all this week (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

Waldorf detective back in uniform

By John Witherow

One of the detectives who shot and wounded Steven Waldorf in mistake for the fugitive gunman David Martin is being transferred to uniformed duty.

Det Constable Peter Finch, aged 38, who was cleared at the Central Criminal Court of attempted murder, is to be transferred next month after spending almost a year on full pay.

It is unusual for a policeman to be transferred from detective to uniformed work.

The decision was said to have been taken after senior police officers became concerned at the pressure Constable Finch came under as a result of the trial and an internal Scotland Yard inquiry. The pay for a uniformed police constable is the same as for a detective and the police were keen to emphasize that Constable Finch was not being demoted.

No decision has been taken about the future of Det Constable John Jardine, aged 38, who was also charged and cleared after the shooting.

Constable Finch, married with three children, of Croxley Green, Hertfordshire, joined the police as a cadet when he was 16 a had been a detective for eight years.

At the time of the shooting last January he was attached to Scotland Yard's C11 squad. He shot Mr Waldorf, whose car was stuck in traffic in west London, believing he was the escaped man David Martin and was reaching for a gun. The prosecution also alleged that Constable Finch had "pistol-whipped" Mr Waldorf as he lay wounded in the car.

Constable Finch was cleared of attempted murder on the direction of the judge, Mr Justice Croom-Johnson, and the jury later found him not guilty of wounding Mr Waldorf with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

MP predicts ban on hare-coursing

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

A Unionist MP predicted yesterday that this weekend's hare-coursing meeting at Crebilly, Co Antrim, would be the last such event in Northern Ireland.

Mr Peter Robinson, Democratic Unionist deputy leader and MP for Belfast, East, made his forecast when he took his place with a hundred other demonstrators against hare-coursing yesterday. There were more than a thousand coursing supporters at the meeting.

The chances of the sport's being banned in Northern Ireland next year hinges on the respect with which the views of the Northern Ireland Assembly are regarded in London.

Some months ago the Assembly called unanimously for a ban, but it has no legislative powers and the Northern Ireland Office let the decision pass without any reaction.

The Assembly is due to debate a draft Order in Council incorporating changes in Ulster's wildlife conservation laws, which will then go to Westminster to become law.

"This Wildlife Order will give those of us who oppose this barbaric sport the opportunity to put down an amendment which will ban hare-coursing from Northern Ireland I believe this will be the last such meet to be seen here," Mr Robinson said yesterday.

Thatcher is 'Woman of the Year'

By a Staff Reporter

The Prime Minister has won the BBC "Woman of the Year" award for the second successive year.

She gained double the votes given to Mrs Joan Ruddock, chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, who came second. But the BBC declined to give any detailed figures for the award, which will be broadcast on the Today programme on Radio 4 this morning.

Mr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, won the "Man of the Year" poll which was broadcast on the programme yesterday. He beat Mr Eddie Shah, who has continued to publish his Messenger group of newspapers in the face of mass picketing.

Mother Teresa took third place in the "Woman of the Year" vote, with Princess Anne fourth, and the Princess of Wales fifth. Mrs Victoria Gillick, the campaigner against contraceptive pills being prescribed for girls under 16; Miss Helen John, a founder of the Greenham Common peace camp; Jane Torvill, the Olympic skater; Jo Durie, the tennis player; and Commissioner Catherine Bramwell-Booth, of the Salvation Army, completed the top 10.

Lord Tonypanby, the former Speaker of the Commons was third in the men's vote, with Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, fourth and Mr Lech Walesa, the Polish union leader, fifth.

The rest of the top 10 were: Mr Richard Noble, the world land speed record holder; Alex Higgins, the snooker player; Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence; Mr Kenneth Livingstone, the Greater London Council leader; and The Rev Richard Harries, Radio 4's Prayer for the Day contributor.

Votes were also cast for the pop singer Boy George and Mr Roy Tapping, the man who carried his severed arm half a mile after a hay baling accident.

Dogs unlimited

Police officers and farmers are searching for three or four dogs which attacked a flock of pregnant ewes, killing seven and injuring six in Wembdon, near Bridgwater, Somerset, on Christmas Day.

The Italian entry was awarded top marks by jurors from Austria, Belgium, Germany, Britain, Italy, and Norway.

The Citroën BX which was recently voted "Top Car 1984" by the British Guild of Motoring Writers and was hotly tipped for the European award because of its advanced technology, came sixth.

The last wholly British car to win the prestigious Car of the Year award was the Rover 3,500 in 1977.



Top marks: The Fiat Uno, Car of the Year 1984.

Uno voted numero one

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Fiat's new generation supermini, the Uno, has been voted Car of the Year 1984 by motoring journalists from 16 European countries. However, it was a close thing with only a few votes separating it from another supermini the Peugeot 205.

Austin Rover's Maestro came seventh of the 15 cars considered. The highest placed Japanese car was the Mazda 626 in fifth place.

The big surprise was the poor showing of the Mercedes 190, the German quality car group's first venture into the small to medium sized saloon. It was fourth scoring 116 points compared with Uno's 346.

The computer revolution

New age dawning in polys

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The microcomputer age is dawning in higher education and it is happening, appropriately enough, in the polytechnics rather than the universities.

In the vanguard of this particular revolution is the Polytechnic of the South Bank in London which now has about 200 micros and four mainframe computers, to which are lined 200 to 300 terminals. All five facilities have computer laboratories.

The polytechnic, whose director, Mr John Beishon, has taken a strong interest in promoting the new technology, wants to introduce computers to all its students, whatever their subject, so that they have "hands on" experience of micros and understand their potential. Lecturers can call on the computer services department for help with equipment and the programs needed for it.

"We are trying to respond to industry and to student demand," Mrs Pat Crocker, head of the computer services department, said. "We are finding that students now have micros at home and are quite familiar with them. They are also being recognized as a good teaching aid."

There are 11,000 part-time and full-time students at South Bank, spread out on three sites in the five faculties of administration (which includes architecture, town planning and civil engineering), engineering, science and technology and education/humanities/social sciences.

The engineers use the new technology more than any other faculty from the first year onwards - for example, to design circuit boards or test equipment. Mechanical engineers had been testing the effect of wind on items of equipment and readings had to be taken every second or so. This could be done much more accurately on the micro than manually.

students for recipe costing and stock control. Each faculty has standardized on a system which has a range of software to suit its work.

Mrs Crocker says that there is great incentive to get students to use micros across the curriculum since the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), which approves polytechnic courses, put out a policy document earlier this year saying that it wanted new technology incorporated into all courses.

"If we do not take note of the CNAA we will not get course approval in the future," Mrs Crocker said. "But we are also competing for students and we hope they will want to come here because we are offering them modern technology. We cannot afford to stand still."

Headway still has to be made with a number of departments, notably modern languages, which is linked with European business and law, but the lawyers do have at their disposal the data base Lexis, a reference system for legal cases.

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NATIONAL SAVINGS-ORDINARY ACCOUNT

Armed Forces vying for privilege of sending Briton on space shuttle

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Ministers are likely to decide within the next few months to send an astronaut up in the American space shuttle, who would be the first Briton to enter space.

There is intense rivalry among the Armed Services, for the privilege but it is possible that a civilian would be chosen.

The Prime Minister denied on December 13 in the Commons that there were any plans to send a British astronaut, but thinking within the Government, and particularly at the Ministry of Defence, seems to point in that direction.

The possibility of sending an astronaut arises because of the decision, announced on December 20, to use the American shuttle in preference to the European Ariane rocket for launching two military communications satellites, Skynet IV and B, in late 1985 and 1986.

The shuttle can carry up to 10 people, which includes scope for carrying two or three "payload specialists". They monitor specific pieces of equipment or the satellite launch for which their government or organization is paying.

It is in that role that a British astronaut would go. He or she would not need to be an aviator, or have super fitness required of other astronauts.

In the case of the British payloads, it would be much more relevant for the person to be an expert in communications systems, specifically in the Skynet satellites.

The National Aeronautical and Space Administration said that it would probably need about a year's notice if Britain wanted to send up a payload specialist, who would require about two months training at

NASA, including "flights" on simulators.

Meanwhile, the Royal Navy, Army, and The Royal Air Force are believed to have prepared lists of candidates, backed with arguments on why the person should be selected from its ranks.

Scientists at Surrey University are racing to build their second experimental spacecraft in time for launch by NASA on March 1 (the Press Association reports).

They hope to assemble the £350,000 UOSAT-2 for testing next month and delivery in February.

The spacecraft, to be launched from the western test range in California, will carry scientific and engineering experiments for use by experts and radio amateurs, and experiments for schools and colleges.

Sugar beet crop sets factory records

The sugar beet harvest is expected to produce 1.1 million tonnes of sugar.

British Sugar, at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, which handles crops from 14,000 growers, said yesterday that all 13 of its factories in the Midlands and East Anglia were operating at full capacity processing record amounts of beet.

Harvesting started in October after a two-week delay caused by the effects of a wet spring, which delayed drilling, and drought, which slowed summer root growth.

British Sugar said yesterday that 1983 "will be remembered as a year when the crop picked itself out of the doldrums and several factories set new weekly and daily slicing records". The factories are due to close by the end of next month.

Letters, page 11

Equality case PC faces inquiry

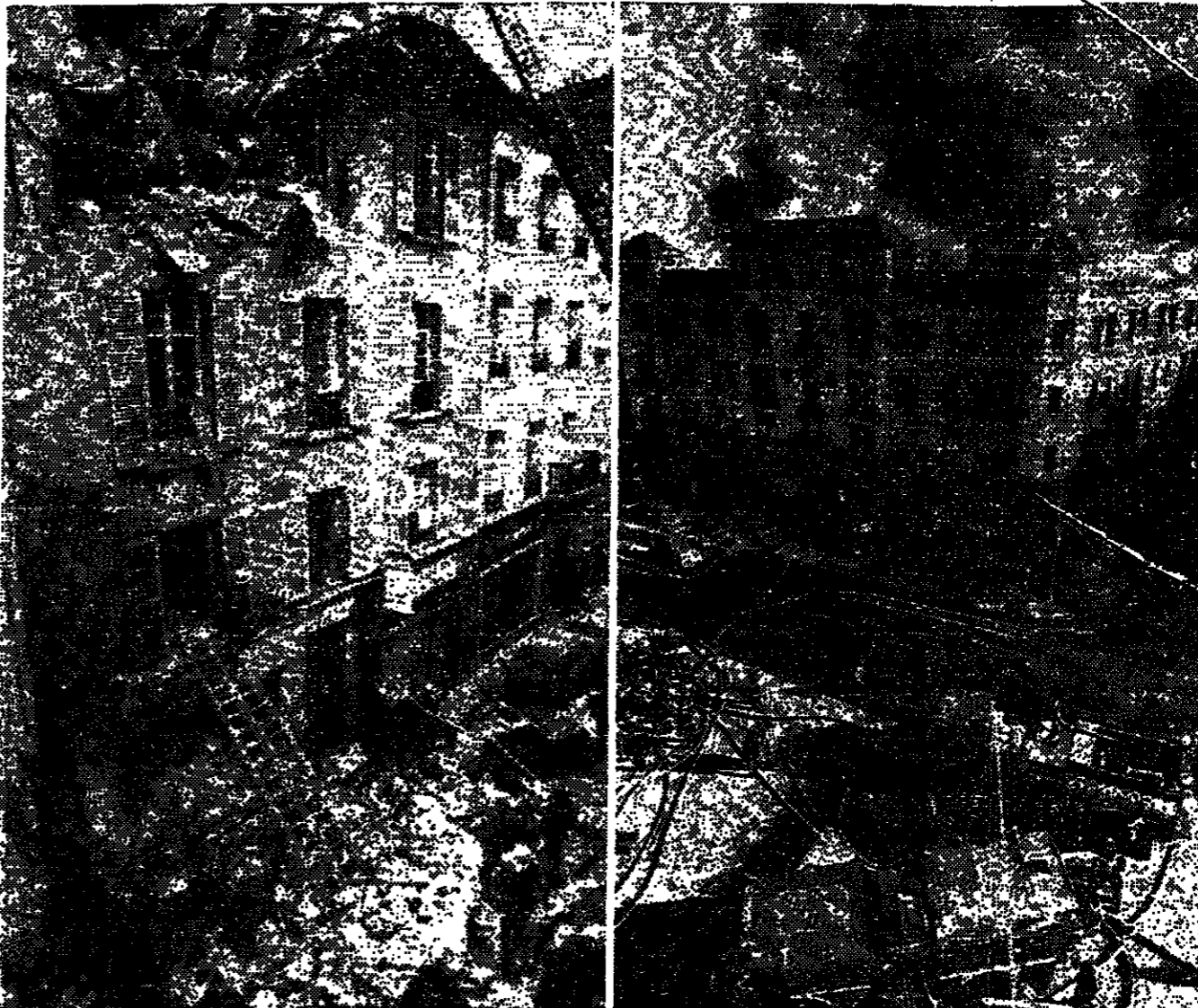
Police Constable Trevor Attfield, of Hampton police station in West London, is to face an investigation for allegedly giving evidence in police time on behalf of a woman colleague who successfully brought a sex discrimination case against the Metropolitan Police.

PC Attfield says he cleared the time off with superiors before appearing at a tribunal on behalf of WPC Wendy de Launay.

Comedian's foot crushed

Jim Davidson, the comedian, cancelled shows at the Apollo Theatre, Coventry, last night after dropping a paving slab on his foot on Christmas Day.

His press agent, Miss Pat Lake-Smith, said Davidson almost lost a toe in the accident. A decision will be made today about whether he will appear in the rest of the shows.



Bleak holiday: In Paris yesterday (left), where a woman was killed and three other people injured when a gas explosion wrecked a three-storey building; and in New York, where 10 people were hurt in a hotel fire

Allay fears on ministry, church told

The Church of Scotland was urged today to make a "fresh and clear statement" of its procedures for selecting candidates for the ministry.

The call, in a leading article in the Church of Scotland magazine *Life and Work*, comes after the recent disclosures that a convicted killer and a former bank manager convicted of embezzlement have been accepted as candidates.

The magazine says that in these two "exceptional" cases the reasons why the men were accepted were given, but many prospective candidates who were rejected said that they were not given a reason.



Honeymoon couple: Steve Cram, the world 1,500 metres champion, and his wife, the former Miss Karen Waters, who were married 11 days ago, flew to the United States on their honeymoon yesterday. The couple will spend about ten days in Tampa, Florida, before travelling to New Zealand, where Cram, aged 23, intends to spend two months training. On Friday, Cram was awarded the C. N. Jackson Memorial Cup, given by the Amateur Athletics Association to the year's most outstanding athlete.

Vaccination campaigns

The 'trivial' disease that kills 900,000 a year

In the United States, measles has been almost completely wiped out. In Britain this year, there has been an epidemic involving more than 100,000 children. In the United States, vaccination against measles is compulsory. In this country, fewer than six in 10 children receive the vaccine.

Senior officials at the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) are concerned at the comparatively low uptake, and suspect that public apathy is largely responsible. Measles is seen as a trivial infection, with the catch being not much better than the disease, a fever and fleeting rash often follows inoculation.

Yet measles causes an average of 20 deaths a year in Britain. In a typical epidemic, 10,000 children in England alone would suffer complications, including deafness in 2,500 cases and partial deafness in 5,000 others.

The number of children vaccinated against measles in England last year was 368,512, only 20,000 more than in 1974. In 1978, the figure was as low as 302,075. Worldwide, measles

causes 900,000 deaths annually, mainly in Third World countries.

A study published early this year indicated that up to 4.5 million people in Britain are susceptible to the disease. The decision by the Princess of Wales last month to have Prince William inoculated against measles received less publicity than her endorsement of the national rubella campaign, but the DHSS has been heartened by her move.

The Department hopes that more mothers will follow the Princess's example. The Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunization is trying to promote a greater public response.

The public's response to poliomyelitis, in contrast, has been dramatically positive. Fears of the disease have always outweighed any worries about the risks of side-effects from the vaccine, calculated at one in three million. The uptake in England is now 82 per cent in 1981, 554,481 children were vaccinated.

Only four cases of paralytic poliomyelitis were reported last year. Two of those were vaccine-associated - one a child, the other a mother. In the third, the infection was acquired abroad; in the fourth, it was diagnosed in an infant boy who had a febrile illness.

Polio has been virtually eliminated; so too has diphtheria. There were four cases in England in 1982, including that of a girl aged three who died in hospital. She had not been immunized. In the three previous years, there were only seven cases. The vaccination rate last year was 84 per cent.

Tetanus is another infection almost completely defeated by

vaccination. The vaccine is usually combined with those for whooping cough and diphtheria, and administered in the same injection. However, a version excluding whooping cough is also available, explaining why tetanus and diphtheria share an 84 per cent uptake while whooping cough remains at just 53 per cent.

But people aged over 65, who were too old to be immunized in the first wave of vaccinations, remain at risk from tetanus. Between five and 10 tetanus deaths are recorded in England every year, almost all involving people of that age group.

The usual timetable for immunizations is: Diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio: from age three months; again at five to six months; and again at nine to 11 months. Measles: from 12 to 24 months. Boosters for diphtheria, tetanus and polio: at about five years of age. Rubella, or German measles: girls aged 10 to 14. Tuberculosis: girls and boys aged about 13 years. Tetanus and polio: when leaving school, aged between 15 and 19. Concluded

Nakasone defends choice of Tanaka backers

Mr Yahiro Nakasone, the Japanese Prime Minister, yesterday defended his selection of six members of the Tanaka faction in his new Cabinet.

At a nationally televised press conference, Mr Nakasone denied that Mr Tanaka, the former Prime Minister, had ever meddled in the political affairs of his previous government. He said reports of such activity in the press had been misleading to voters in the election campaign.

The Tanaka issue appears to have been responsible for the sharply decreased vote for the ruling Liberal Democracy Party. Mr Tanaka is appealing against his conviction and four-year jail sentence in the Lockheed bribery scandal.

Explaining his selection of so many Tanaka followers in his 20-man Cabinet - by far the strongest representation - Mr Nakasone said: "It doesn't make sense to deprive qualified people (of posts) just because

From Richard Hanson, Tokyo

they belong to Tanaka's group."

Reflecting his reading of public opinion, however, Mr Nakasone eased Tanaka men out of previous held sensitive posts such as Secretary-General of the party, Chief Cabinet Secretary and Justice Minister.

For the first time since the LDP came to power in 1955 the Cabinet also includes an opposition party member, the leader of the National Liberal Club, whose alliance with the LDP gave Mr Nakasone enough votes to control the critical budget committee, though still well below the LDP's absolute majority of 286 seats held before the election.

Cabinet also includes an opposition party member, the leader of the National Liberal Club, whose alliance with the LDP gave Mr Nakasone enough votes to control the critical budget committee, though still well below the LDP's absolute majority of 286 seats held before the election.



Nakasone's team: left, Mr Hikosaburo Okonogi (International Trade and Industry); centre, Mr Shintaro Abe (Foreign); and Mr Yuko Kurihara (Defence).

Rare public appearance by Mao's daughter

Peking (Reuters) - Mao Tse-tung's disgraced successor as Communist Party leader, Mr Hua Guofeng, has made a rare public appearance together with Mao's daughter by his jailed wife, Jiang Qing, the *People's Daily* reported.

The party newspaper said the two paid their respects to Mr Mao's remains in the central Peking mausoleum on Monday as part of ceremonies marking the nineteenth anniversary of his birth.

According to the Hongkong magazine, *Zhongneng*, Mr Hua recently tried to commit suicide.

He was forced to resign in June, 1981, after his policies were attacked as too leftist. He was succeeded by Mr Hu Yaobang whose views are more in line with those of Mr Deng Xiaoping, a sworn enemy of Maoist dogmatism.

Mr Deng and his associates have stripped Mr Hua of most of his power.

The *People's Daily* named Mao's daughter, Li Na as among family members who paid homage to his remains in their crystal sarcophagus. It did not mention that she is the only child of Jiang Qing who was given a suspended death sentence in 1981 for conspiring to usurp state power as leader of the Gang of Four.

Li Na, aged about 40, wielded enormous power at the height of the Cultural Revolution in 1967 when she was chief editor of the *Liberation Army Daily*. The position was of particular importance because the army newspaper had at that time replaced the *People's Daily* as the mouthpiece of the Central Committee.

Warsaw hesitates over food price rise

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Food price rises, traditionally the most sensitive and volatile issue in Polish politics, may be postponed beyond the scheduled date of January 1 while the Government draws up a palatable package for the nation, economic experts and Communist Party officials have disclosed.

Since November the Government has been "consulting" the nation on whether it approves an increase in prices that would entail a 4.5 per cent increase in living standards or a 6.5 per cent rise. The idea is to reduce subsidies given to food, change consumption habits so that people eat food that is not dependent on imports and - though this is officially denied - to soak up surplus zloties on the market.

Government leaders have admitted that the response to food price rises of any kind is overwhelmingly negative. Some 40,000 letters have been received by the Council of Ministers' office, many complaining about the effect of the rises on fixed income households such as pensioners.

There have been angry scenes in factory meetings to discuss the rises. Representatives of Communist Party cells in 200 of the principal plants have warned the leadership that the increases will bring trouble in industry.

The Consultative Economic Council, a group of economists advising the Government, has recommended that a much milder form of increase be introduced and that the increases should be phased in slowly.

The Government is evidently taking some of these criticisms seriously. First, say party sources, an automatic increase in food prices on January 1 would be bad propaganda, giving the population the impression that the leadership had not taken sufficient account of the "consultations".

Second, the Government seems set to pick the mildest of the price rises and even then to exclude certain food products. Finally, at least some politicians within the Government are advising a more phased approach.

The results of the popular soundings - made through the new pro-Government trades unions and other organizations - will be published early next month.

Local polls begin Ershad's return to democracy

Dhaka (Reuters) - Voting began yesterday in rural council in Bangladesh, the first such elections in seven years.

General Hossain Mohammad Ershad the military ruler, said the elections would lay the foundations for a return to democracy.

Voting will continue until January 10, followed by municipal elections in urban areas on February 11 and sub-district council elections on March 24.

Opponents of General Ershad are against plans to hold a presidential election on May 24 and parliamentary polls later, on November 25. They say that a presidential election held beforehand would help General Ershad to install himself permanently as President.

General Ershad seized power in 1982, and named himself President this month after anti-government violence.

Five of 12 Soviet diplomats expelled from Bangladesh left the country on Monday official sources said yesterday.

EEC presidency changes hands

Mitterrand versus Thatcher

France begins its six-month term as president of the EEC's Council of Ministers with the new year. In this second article on the crisis in the EEC, Ian Murray, looks at how French domestic pressures could make the Community's problems even more difficult to solve.

"Europe is fully aware that it is in crisis." That was President Mitterrand's optimistic summary of the outcome of the Athens summit when he refused to answer any press questions on the ground that he was about to take over the presidency of the EEC.

It was an optimistic comment because the EEC member states have so far given precious little practical indication that they are aware of any internal crisis. Even though the European Commission was forced to freeze some payments from October in order to eke out the 1983 budget, the summit failed to grasp that the money was running out so quickly that something had to be agreed urgently.

As a result the towering 900,000-tonne surplus batter mountain continues to grow, French and West German farmers go on snarling at each other about "green" currency rates, and the poisonous British budget problem is beginning to infect the entire body politic of the Community.

But the crisis has yet to come because there is still enough money to go round and, unless Britain withholds payment of all or part of its contributions, there will be enough money to go round throughout the French presidency.



President Mitterrand: talking over negotiations himself

summit by offering Mrs Thatcher another short-term budget deal, and by refusing to discuss binding controls on spending - both ideas accepted by French ministers in earlier meetings.

French officials involved in the negotiations admitted privately that they had been as amazed as the British by the way in which the President seemed to ignore all that had gone before.

Mitterrand has also underlined his intention of staying in control by his appointment of a close personal friend, M Roland Dumas, as Minister for European Affairs. His chief qualification for the job would seem to be that he has the ear of the President.

Giving in to Mrs Thatcher would cost President Mitterrand dear. He made a great deal of political capital in opposition by accusing his predecessor, M Ciscard D'Estaing, of giving way when the first British deal was struck in 1980. It would be difficult for him not to lose a great deal of face if he followed suit.

Equally, he cannot risk the unpopularity that would follow any large-scale reform of the common agricultural policy in which French farmers would lose income. They are already facing a zero price increase this year, and their tempers are notoriously short in these circumstances.

Given all this, the French President is unlikely to be conciliatory in the chair, unless he believes that success can win him votes. While individual ministers will be urged to make progress on their complicated dossiers, President Mitterrand can be expected to oversee everything with the 1986 French elections in mind.

Tomorrow: Britain holds the key

Law Report December 28, 1983

What the signature of a company is

UBAF Ltd v European American Banking Corporation

Before Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Oliver

[Judgment delivered December 9]

The signature on behalf of a company of its duly authorized agent acting within the scope of his authority was the signature of the company for the purpose of section 6 of the Statute of Frauds Amendment Act 1828.

Further, it was a matter of evidence whether the plaintiff cause of action accrued when they entered into a contract as a result of innocent but negligent misrepresentation, since it was not inevitable that they had entered into a contract merely by entering into the contract.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by the appellants, UBAF Ltd, from an order by Mr Justice Legatt who set aside an order of Mr Justice Staughton who had given leave to serve a writ on the defendants, European American Banking Corporation, out of the jurisdiction.

Mr Kenneth Robinson, QC and Mr Timothy Charlton for the appellants; Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC and Mr Richard Sibery for the respondent defendants.

LORD JUSTICE ACKNER, giving the judgment of the court, said that the plaintiffs were an English banking corporation and the defendants were a New York banking corporation. The defendants approached the plaintiffs and requested them to participate in two loans which the defendants were intending to make to two Panamanian corporations in the Colocotronis group of shipping companies.

A letter signed by the defendant's assistant secretary was sent to the plaintiffs together with information about the loans. The plaintiffs alleged that the defendants represented to them that the intended loans were "attractive financing of two companies in a sound and profitable group" and in reliance on those representations the plaintiffs lent US\$300,000 to each company.

The Colocotronis group got into difficulties and the two companies defaulted and \$880,000 remained

outstanding. The plaintiffs brought a claim pleading three separate causes of action: deceit, misrepresentation under section 2(1) of the Misrepresentation Act 1967 and negligence in the presentation of the transactions.

The defendants contended that the claim in deceit, was precluded by section 6 of the Statute of Frauds Amendment Act 1828 and Lord Justice Ackner's judgment in *Tenterden's Case* (1834), which equally ruled out any claim under the Misrepresentation Act 1967. They also contended that any claim in negligence was statute barred because the writ was issued more than six years after the cause of action (if any) arose.

Section 6 of Lord Tenterden's Act provided: "no action shall be brought whereby to charge any person upon or by reason of any representation or assurance made or given concerning or relating to the signature of any instrument, trade or dealings of any other person, to the intent or purpose that such other person may obtain credit, money or goods upon, unless such representation or assurance be made in writing signed by the party to be charged therewith."

It was common ground that the action applied to fraudulent misrepresentations only; and that "person" in the section included a corporation.

The matter at issue was whether the signature of the defendant's assistant secretary constituted the signature of the party to be charged. Once it was accepted that the section applied to a corporation, the signature of some person must be sufficient for the purposes of the Act. The court did not know any detail concerning the terms of the defendant's representation or what his status was in the defendant company.

Evidence was therefore required to determine the issue and accordingly the matter had to be allowed to proceed.

Further, having considered *Hirst v West Riding Union Banking Co Ltd* (1902) 2 KB 560 and *Swift v Jewsbury* (1874) LR 9 QB 301, his Lordship found that there was no impediment in authority in deciding, and it should now be decided, that the signature on behalf of a

company of its duly authorized agent acting within the scope of his authority was, for the purposes of section 6 of Lord Tenterden's Act, the signature of the company.

The defendants successfully contended before Mr Justice Legatt that the accrual of the cause of action occurred when the plaintiffs parted with their money and acquired instead claims for repayment of money lent against borrowers whose ability to repay was, contrary to the alleged representations, a matter of considerable doubt.

The short answer to that question depended upon the facts as found at the trial. The plaintiffs case was that if they had known the respects in which the representations were inaccurate, they would not have entered into the contracts.

Accordingly, the defendants argued that at the very moment of entering into that contract the plaintiffs must have suffered damage.

That bare proposition was not self-evident. The plaintiffs were in the tort of negligence. To establish a cause of action they had to establish not only a breach of duty but that that breach of duty occasioned them damage. That was automatic.

It was possible that at the date when the plaintiffs advanced their money the value of the chose in action which they then acquired was in fact not less than the sum which the plaintiffs lent, or indeed even exceeded it.

That had to depend on the evidence. The mere fact that the innocent but negligent misrepresentations caused the plaintiffs to enter into a contract which they otherwise would not have entered into, did not inevitably mean that they had suffered damage by merely entering into the contract.

Even if it was wrong to conclude that evidence was required to establish whether or not the plaintiffs' alleged cause of action accrued when the loan was advanced, there was a further matter to consider.

The plaintiffs sought to rely on section 32(1)(b) of the Limitation Act 1980 on the basis that the falsity of the representations was known to

Chastisement must be controlled

Regina v Taylor

Although it was a schoolmaster's right and duty to control and, if necessary, chastise pupils in his care, he must act reasonably. Whether force used was reasonable was a matter for a jury, but reasonable chastisement involved a controlled, if not an entirely cool response and the throwing of an exercise book at a pupil could not come within that category.

Mr Justice Nolan (sitting with Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Boreham) so held on Appeal dismissed an appeal by a teacher, Martyn Taylor, against his conviction on June 2, 1982 at Bristol Crown Court (Mr Recorder Drivakovic, QC and a jury) of assault occasioning actual bodily harm to a 12-year-old pupil.

Correction

In *Grainy Morning Services Ltd v Interlego AG and Another*, *The Times*, December 19, 1983, solicitors for the plaintiffs were Philip Conn & Co, Manchester.

Israel to stone in W

ailing economic unions

Paris denied

Israel resolves to stamp out stone-throwing in West Bank

From Christopher Walker, Bethlehem

The Israeli Government is considering new measures to deter Palestinian stone-throwers, including the demolition of houses and other buildings near main roads used by Jewish vehicles, and deportation for those found guilty of inciting the attacks.

Both options are available to the military authorities under draconian security regulations originally drafted by the British in 1945 and still in force in the occupied West Bank.

The probability of their rapid introduction was disclosed yesterday by Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, during a visit to two of the largest West Bank refugee camps, Balata near Nablus and Dheisheh outside Bethlehem.

While soldiers and security men with sub-machine guns kept the hostile camp residents at a safe distance, Mr Arens conferred with senior officers about the new measures, after the recent increase in attacks on the Jewish settlers. At no time did he make any effort to enter the warren of alleys and narrow streets in the camp.

Dheisheh, a sprawling eyecore, which houses about 10,000 refugees, is on the main road linking the holy cities of Jerusalem and Hebron and has been the scene of repeated attacks on Jews travelling to and from the large settlement of Kiryat Arba. The authorities have responded with curfews and by blocking roads in the camp.

Standing alongside used cartridges of Israeli CS gas left from a recent riot, Mr Arens was asked what was being

considered. "We are looking at the possibility of deportation as a possible measure of punishment in addition to those punishments that exist," he said. It was stressed that this would not necessarily apply to young stone-throwers, whom he referred to as "hooligans", but to those who incited them.

On the question of the demolition of houses and schools built close to the road, Mr Arens said: "That is certainly an approach we are looking at. It is a common one when it comes to road safety, to make sure that there is space between roads and the area where people move or live. To the extent that this is possible for us, this is the correct way to go."

Camp residents, whose walls are covered in painted-over Palestinian slogans, expressed anxiety about the proposed measures. Many fear that the Israelis plan to move the entire camp under a scheme for resettling the Palestinians being considered by the Cabinet. But Mr Arens denied his unexpected trip had anything to do with that.

His hard-line approach was in stark contrast to remarks made by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, earlier this month when he played down the importance of stone-throwing and told settlers that no switch in security policy was required.

Ailing economy reels as unions get tough

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

With inflation approaching 200 per cent, Israel is facing an unparalleled wave of labour unrest which yesterday grew more serious when postal workers began an indefinite strike which crippled services and posed a new threat to the ailing economy.

Further public services are expected to be hit as trade unionists step up their campaign against the Government's declared intention of cutting real wages by 10 per cent and reducing the standard of living in an effort to ease the country from its balance-of-payments crisis. Already this week, violence has erupted at one workers' protest march near the Red Sea port of Eilat and in Jerusalem, an angry crowd of 1,000 organized by the Israeli equivalent of the Trades Union Congress, paralysed traffic as it marched through the street, chanting "bread and work".

The violence in Eilat flared when about 150 men protested against the proposed closure of a local copper mine near the site of the historical mines of King Solomon. Tear gas was used to break up the demonstration and one policeman and two demonstrators were injured.

The bulk of the industrial unrest has so far been in the public sector which faces a 3 per cent manpower cut under budget plans to be presented to the Cabinet by Mr Yigal Cohen-Orgad, the Finance Minister. He is also seeking overall spending cuts of about £1,000m.

In addition to the postal strike, the Government faces other protests. These were yesterday reported to be imminent in the agriculture and transport ministries, the meteorological office, local government offices and the customs and excise department.

On Monday night, Mr Asher Ohayon, the director-general of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, gave warning that the ministry's institutions, which serve 100,000 Israelis, were on the verge of collapsing as a result of wage demands. He

said the system would begin collapsing later this week.

The Government's determination to rescue Israel economic crisis by the most stringent belt-tightening measures since the right-wing Likud coalition won power in 1977 has brought an angry reaction from its grass roots.

This discontent - which could have severe political consequences - came to the fore at a meeting in Tel Aviv of the coalition's dominant Herut Party. Mr David Levi, the Deputy Prime Minister, was subjected to scathing criticism of the Government's economic plans.

Many of the attacks came from oriental Jews from the poorer towns - the group which put the Likud in power and has since maintained it there. Mr Shalom Ovniish from Mr Levi's home town of Beit Shean aimed at that every development town "what is now missing is only the person who will strike the match to set the blaze".

Mr Ovniish asked: "How much longer will dozens of unemployed youngsters walk around idle? It is the public which gave you the mandate to run the state. This government does not realize who it is hurting."

As the social unrest gathers momentum, Mr Shimon Peres, the leader of the main Labour opposition, last week held meetings with Mr Ezer Weizman, the former Defence Minister and Mr Yitzhak Modai, the Energy Minister. This reconciled speculation about possible moves for an early election or an attempt to replace the Government inside the present Knesset.

Interviewed on Israel television, Mr Peres - whose party has taken the lead in recent opinion polls - said: "I am sorry to say we have not yet hit bottom economically and it will take some time, maybe a month or two, before we are convinced that there is simply no other option than a change of government."



Anniversary march: Afghan exiles demonstrating outside the Soviet Embassy in Bayswater Road, London, yesterday, to mark the fourth anniversary of the Russian intervention in Afghanistan (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

EEC in Afghan anniversary appeal to Russia

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Britain and other members of the European Economic Community yesterday marked the fourth anniversary of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan by denouncing the continued presence there of Soviet troops and calling for their withdrawal.

On behalf of Britain alone, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, issued a strong but similar statement, which referred to the "brutal and relentless war" waged by the Soviet Union, and called on the Russians "to honour their international obligations under the UN Charter, and to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan".

He said that since the invasion at Christmas, 1979, "destroyed villages have been destroyed together with their crops and irrigation systems. Tens of thousands of Afghans have been killed or injured in indiscriminate and violent attacks. Literally millions have been driven abroad as refugees."

"In Kabul the Karmal regime, 'totally dependent on Soviet power for its survival pursues a vicious policy of political repression, imprisonment and torture'."

The spirit of the Afghan people remained unbroken.

More than 100,000 Soviet troops had failed to suppress the resistance to the occupation. Despite their appalling suffering the Afghan people remained determined to defend their way of life and to regain their independence.

In a communique issued from Bonn Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, said that blood continued to be shed and no end was in sight.

ISLAMABAD: Afghanistan yesterday renewed its offer to generate home the 105,000 Soviet troops, but a key resistance leader vowed that the rebels would fight until they drove the Russians out (Reuter reports).

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar of the fundamentalist Hezb-I-Islami Party, and vice-president of the seven-party alliance based in Pakistan, rejected any political settlement with the Soviet Union and accused Moscow of trying to deceive the world with its proposal for a negotiated settlement.

The Afghan offer, in a Radio Kabul broadcast, included a demand for international guarantees that all resistance would stop.

Breakthrough for Brazilian plane

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo

Brazil's Embraer Aircraft Company is to sell 120 of its two-seater Tucano trainer planes to Egypt in a contract worth \$180m (£120m). The first 40 will be delivered next year in assembled form; the remaining 80 are to be supplied as kits, to be assembled in Egypt during the subsequent three years.

Some of them may be sold to other Arab countries.

Embraer is also a contender for supplying the Tucano to the Royal Air Force, which will soon need 300 new trainers. The Tucano flies at 280 mph, and can carry two 120-kilo bombs, and machine-guns.

Embraer has also now gained its first firm orders for ten of the new 30-seater Brasília feeder aircraft from a Boston airline. More than 100 options on the new plane have now been taken out.

seven years, 230 of them abroad, including several to Britain. However, the Bandeirante had almost no competitors when it first appeared, and there will be four planes to compete with the Brasília.

Antarctic trip: Brazil's second expedition to the Antarctic will leave for a ten weeks' voyage on January 6. Since its first expedition early this year, Brazil has been admitted as a full member of the now 16-strong Antarctic Consultative Committee.

Despite its economic difficulties, it has decided it must make an estimated annual outlay of at least \$25m on its research programme, so as to qualify to take part in the next meetings to discuss the future of the continent, due in 1991.

However, it is not proposing to make a territorial claim for any part of Antarctica, unlike neighbouring Argentina or Chile, parts of whose claims overlap and others such as Britain and Norway.



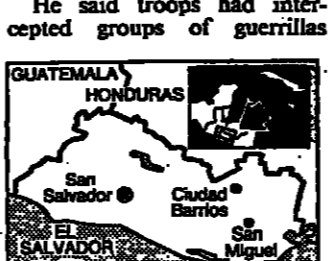
Happy couple: An official photograph of Princess Caroline of Monaco and her fiancé, Signor de Stefano Casiraghi.

El Salvador says 200 rebels killed by Army

San Salvador (Reuter) - The Salvadoran Army has killed more than 250 left-wing guerrillas during a two-week operation in the north east of the country, more than 50 of them in fighting at the weekend, the area commander said.

Many more guerrillas were wounded in the latest infantry and air operation near the village of Sese, the commander told Reuters by telephone from his headquarters in San Miguel, 70 miles east of here.

He said troops had intercepted groups of guerrillas



retreating from fighting in nearby Ciudad Barrios, 65 miles north-east of the capital.

Radio Venceremos, the guerrillas' radio, has said more than 300 soldiers and 15 guerrillas have died during the Army push involving 2,000 troops. The rebels rarely admit casualties.

The Army operation was launched after guerrillas briefly took a strategic communications post on December 13. Radio Venceremos has accused the US-backed Army of indiscriminate bombing of villages during the operation.

Following similar accusations by Radio Venceremos in the first week of battle, a Reuter correspondent in Ciudad Barrios saw no signs of bombing or shelling. The fighting had taken place outside the village. But military sources said the Army counts as guerrillas the often unarmed "camp followers" carrying food and ammunition.

Villagers go to war with Rhine Army

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The 3,000 inhabitants of the little village of Augustdorf in Lower Saxony have declared war on the British Army of the Rhine, and are preparing "active resistance" to the Army's plans to build a concrete mock village near by in which to practise anti-guerrilla warfare.

The Army wants to erect a complex of 90 houses on the Senneleger training ground where troops will be able to engage in mock battles and house-to-house fighting. But the proposed ghost village, landscaped to blend in with local architecture, will be only 300 yards from the nearest house of the real village of Augustdorf, whose inhabitants are already up in arms over the continuous bursts of gunfire from the shooting ranges.

At a meeting just before Christmas the local council voted unanimously to try to halt construction of the village, due to start early next year, and threatened to march into the closed training area and sit down in protest. They have already sent letters to the British Ambassador in Bonn

and to Herr Manfred Werner, the defence Minister, asking them to intervene.

There is little the villagers can do, however, as the training area is governed by a military agreement between Britain and West Germany. The Rhine Army insists, that the mock village, which will include two-storey houses, farmhouses and several "strategic" public buildings, is needed to give its troops, as well as Dutch and West German forces, practice in street fighting which it says, will be essential in repelling a conventional attack on West Germany.

Herr Adolf Steffen, the council director, said Augustdorf had been complaining about the noise from the range for the past 10 years, windows had been broken by vibration and school pupils had to sit in the middle of classrooms for fear of glass shattering.

The Army says it has given proper notice and gone through the right channels.

The inhabitants of Augustdorf, however, says there has been no real consultation.

Iraqi held for bombing in Kuwait

Kuwait (AP) - An Iraqi wanted in connexion with the December 12 bomb attacks here against the US and French embassies and other targets has been arrested, government spokesman said 19 suspects are now in custody.

Previously, Kuwait had said that 12 people, including a man who died in a suicide attack against the US Embassy, were responsible. All of the initial suspects are identified as members of an underground Iraqi-based party with allegiance to Iran.

Sweden shops in the dark

Stockholm (AP) - A power failure struck Sweden and parts of Denmark, stopping trains and underground travel in Stockholm and darkening stores filled with post-Christmas shoppers in three of Sweden's largest cities.

Police accused

Lima, Peru (AP) - Two high-ranking prison officials and seven police officers have been ordered to stand trial for negligent homicide in the death of a Belfast-born nun Sister Joan Sawyer, aged 51, killed by police bullets while held hostage during an attempted prison break. Eight convicts also died.

Kidnap foiled

Rome (AP) - Five people suspected of planning to abduct a Rome countess on Christmas Day were arrested after police discovered a 9ft deep underground "prison" where they intended to hold her.

Pilot rescued

Copenhagen (AP) - Simon Willbourn, aged 32, of Somerset, Somerset, spent 13 minutes in icy water near Copenhagen airport after he ditched a twin-engine aircraft in the sea. He was rescued by helicopter.

Arm sewn on

Cape Town (AP) - A Dutch seaman was in satisfactory condition after doctors reattached his severed right arm and his partially severed right leg on Christmas Eve. He was injured in an accident on board his ship.

Sabena strike

Brussels (AP) - Staff of the Belgian airline Sabena went on strike again for one day, after unanimously rejecting a draft agreement reached last week between management and unions. All except early flights were cancelled.

Rail toll rises

Harare (Reuter) - The death toll in Zimbabwe's worst railway accident, a Christmas Eve derailment near the coal mining town of Hwange, rose to 34 when three more bodies were found in the wreckage.

Burglar, aged 7

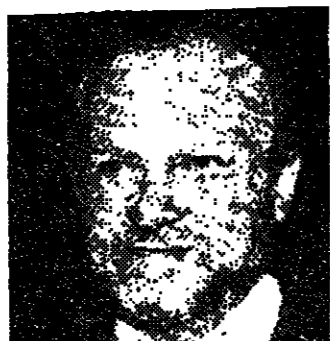
Liège (AP) - A seven-year-old gypsy boy who entered a house at night after breaking a window was arrested in possession of stolen jewelry. Several houses in the area were burgled recently.

Paris denies Lebanon pullout

From Our Correspondent, Paris

The French Defence Ministry last night firmly denied speculation in Paris that the Government is preparing to withdraw its troops from the multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon. "Absolutely not," a ministry spokesman said. "It is out of the question."

The speculation was fuelled when French units left the Palestinian refugee camps at Sabra and Chatila on Christmas Eve, thereby provoking violent clashes between the Lebanese Army and Shia and Druze militias. But the Ministry said yesterday that the withdrawal indicated no change of policy, "only a redeployment for security and tactical reasons".



M Charles Henu, New Year in Chad

Rumours that France was changing its policy were reported by several French papers, including the left-wing Liberation, and picked up by international news agencies. Since France joined the multinational force in 1982, 82 of its soldiers have been killed and 96 injured.

Only last week, however, M Charles Henu, the Defence Minister, tried to stem the

rumours by declaring that French policy remained unchanged. He then flew to Beirut to spend the Christmas with the French contingent and discuss security and tactics with its commanders.

France has 2,000 soldiers in the multinational group, another 1,000 with the United Nations peacekeeping force. They are supported by the aircraft carrier Clemenceau, which is patrolling the Lebanese coast. Its aircraft include 16 Super-Etendards

Rock 'n Roll puts Burma authorities in a twist

Rangoon (AFP) - The plainclothes policeman, waving his megaphone towards a group of young rock 'n roll dancers, shouted: "Attention, first warning: it is forbidden to shake the body."

"We shake our bodies because we feel like it," retorted a resentful youth wearing a Western shirt and faded jeans, cut short and tight at the ankles.

This scene at an annual charity festival symbolizes the gap between the official puritanism of General Ne Win's Government and the wishes of privileged Burmese youth, who are able to buy Western goods on the black market.

The star turn of the evening was a group called Playboy, the most popular of Burma's five or six pop groups, which began to appear a few years ago.

Even the name of the group, featured on big publicity posters with the inevitable logo of a pair of bunny ears, is provocative in a country where official propaganda strongly discourages Western tendencies, particularly among young people.

But the Government is apparently unwilling to harness young people too much, so it tolerates popular music on condition that they do not "shake their bodies".

The Playboy group also manages to placate the authorities while catering to modern tastes by interspersing pop songs with traditionally inspired music.

The black market brings a substantial quantity of Western goods from Thailand into Rangoon, where they are in great demand.

For these privileged children, mainly the sons and daughters of influential officials, jeans are better than the traditional longyi (a type of sarong knotted at the front).

Police have also begun raiding Rangoon's red light district, and have virtually closed down the half-dozen restaurants or bars in Rangoon where pretty young hostesses were available, at a price. But Rangoon people doubt if the crackdown will last more than a month.

Flick group must repay £112m taxes

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The Flick group of companies, accused of bribing Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, in return for tax concessions on the sale of shares, must repay around DM450m (£112m) in back taxes, according to reliable reports here.

The Düsseldorf-based conglomerate sold shares in Daimler-Benz in 1976 and 1978, and used much of the proceeds to invest in the Grace company in the United States. Flick claimed 31 per cent tax relief on this reinvestment on the grounds that it was of national economic benefit.

The Bonn public prosecutor maintains that the Economics Ministry agreed to the concession because substantial payments for party funds were given by Flick to Count Lambsdorff, the Minister, and to his predecessor.

Foreign office invites policy group to put case

Leaders of the right-wing Adam Smith Research Institute are being invited to the Foreign Office to discuss details of their report urging a new approach to British foreign policy. A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday: "We are always interested in proposals seeking to establish better ways of formulating foreign policy."

However it seems unlikely that the main conclusion of the report - that Britain should have a national security council - will be adopted. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was sceptical about the idea when he spoke to a private meeting of Conservative backbenchers

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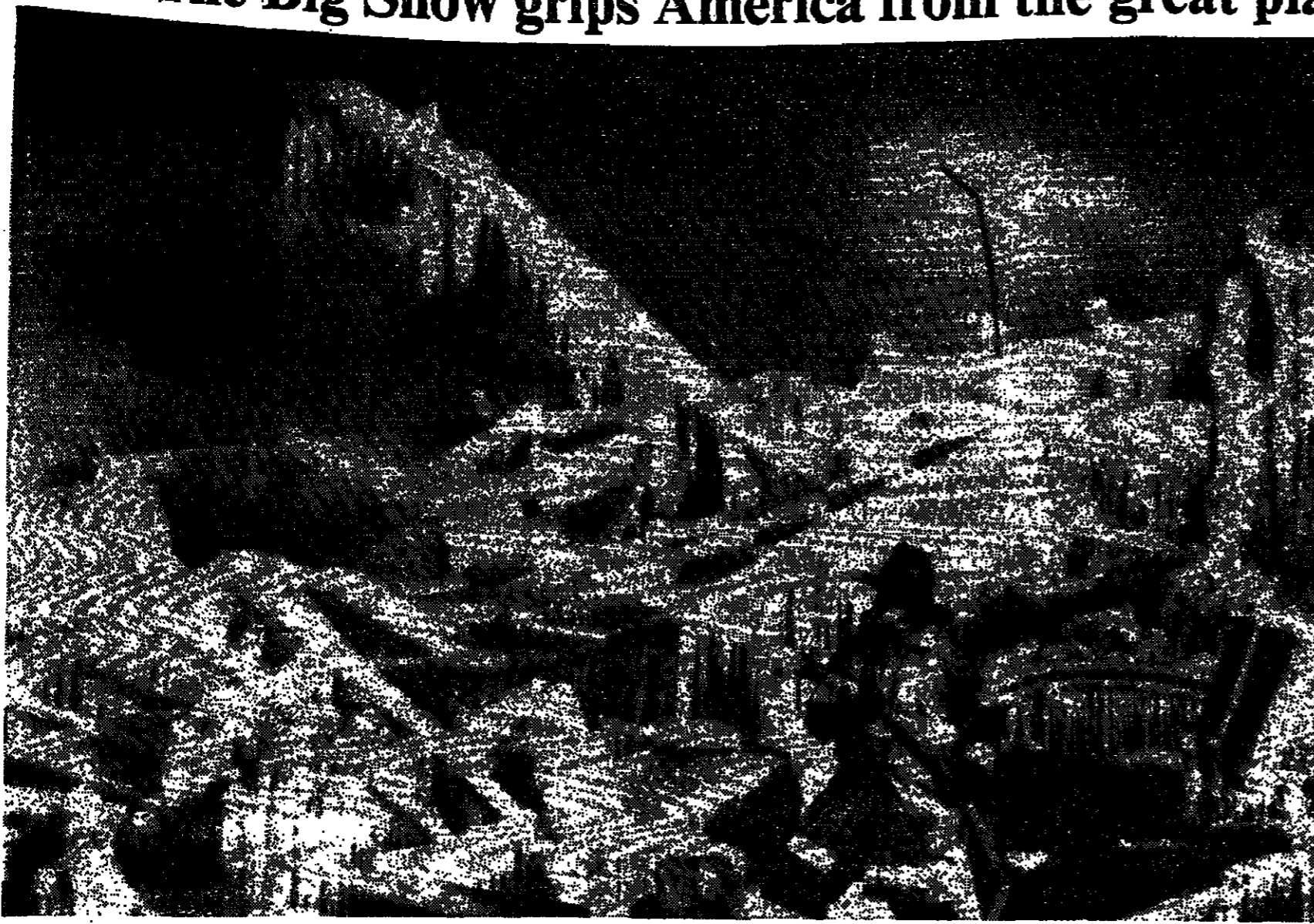
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The Big Snow grips America from the great plains to the Gulf of Mexico



Cold comfort: Firefighting in Boston and (right) trying to keep oranges warm in Florida.



Worse to come as death toll rises to 270

The death toll in one of the worst American winters of the century has climbed to nearly 270.

There have been 10 days of record low temperatures and forecasters predicted yesterday that more bitterly cold weather can be expected.

About 100 of those whose deaths are attributed to the weather have frozen in their homes and on the streets. In New York the cold has contributed to 14 deaths and this figure includes six people who froze to death on the streets, in the subway or in derelict buildings.

Near Albany, capital of New York state, a girl of two froze to death when she got out of bed on Christmas Eve

and wandered outside in her pyjamas. Her name was Sunshine. Her mother was collecting Christmas presents from the home next door. It was not until Christmas morning that she was missed. They followed her footprints and found her body frozen in a porch, she had gone from door to door trying to get in after the door had locked behind her.

Police said she would not have survived more than 10 minutes in temperatures of minus 10F.

In South Dakota tons of coal were sent to reservations where Indians were burning their furniture to keep warm.

The cold wave covers much of the

country from the Great Plains to the Gulf of Mexico and scores of cities have recorded their lowest ever temperatures.

In Miami Florida, the temperature fell to 33F the city's lowest December figure. Throughout Florida, Louisiana and Texas there is concern about the citrus crop as oranges freeze on trees and green vegetables are blighted. Losses are running into many billions of dollars and thousands of fruit pickers have been thrown out of work.

People in the southern states are suffering particularly because they are not used to severe winters and freezing temperatures.

A television report yesterday showed the swollen blistered feet of a woman suffering from frost bite in Atlanta, Georgia.

Throughout the country there has been a spate of fires caused by overloaded heaters and firemen have had to cope with ice as well as fires.

One Lake Erie icebreaker was battling to free 14 cargo vessels trapped in the ice.

There was a relative respite yesterday in parts of the country as temperature rose above zero for the first time in more than a week. But forecasters said that more very cold air is on its way from North-West Canada.

Cuba may be drawn into Pretoria-Luanda war

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South African forces are engaged for the first time in more than two years in extensive fighting with Angolan troops in southern Angola, and there is a risk that the 25,000 Cubans estimated to be in that country could become directly involved.

The fighting was initially described last week by General Constant Viljoen, the chief of the South African Defence Force, as a limited campaign against the guerrilla bases of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO).

The aim of the campaign, he said, was to blunt an expected annual rainy-season southward thrust by SWAPO guerrillas from their Angolan sanctuary into northern Namibia. SWAPO has been fighting for Namibia's independence for the past 17 years.

However, late on Monday, speaking to South African journalists on his return to Pretoria after spending Christmas with his troops, General Viljoen largely confirmed Angolan claims of heavy fighting and accused the Angolans and Cubans of sheltering SWAPO.

SWAPO was "playing a tortoise-like game", General Viljoen said. When things are quiet and we are not there, SWAPO gets out of its Fapla (Angolan army) shell and moves away, scurrying back when we appear. It's a very tricky situation. But if Fapla

gets in the way, we shall certainly shoot.

"We do not like becoming involved with Fapla and Cuban forces and would rather respect them in their areas and expect them to respect our fight against SWAPO. We drop leaflets telling them that our argument is with SWAPO and not with them," the general said. But South Africa could not stand by while SWAPO benefited from the protection provided by the sophisticated weapons supplied to Fapla by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The general said the operation had begun as long ago as December 6, although reports of heavy fighting only emerged a week ago. "It will go on until we reach our target - to knock SWAPO for six and stop plans to infiltrate South West Africa, mainly the Sector 10 Ovambo area," he said.

According to General Viljoen, as many as 1,400 SWAPO troops, fresh from retraining in Angolan bases, could be involved in the rainy-season offensive. Seven companies of between 120 and 140 men each are advancing south along four infiltration routes in the central and western regions of southern Angola, he said.

This part of Angola is directly north of the Ovamboland region of Namibia, where there is widespread support for SWAPO. From there, if the experience of recent years is any guide, the guerrillas will try to slip eastward through the thick

bush of the Kavango region, and then south into the white farmlands around the copper-mining town of Tsumeb.

General Viljoen said the five South African soldiers whose deaths were announced last week had been killed "when a rather large Fapla group ambushed and attacked a platoon involved in a follow-up operation" near the town of Caiundo, just over 100 miles inside Angola in the province of Cuando Cubango. He denied Angolan claims that the platoon had been trying to capture the town.

He also made no mention of the Angolan allegation that the South Africans had occupied the town of Cassinga, more than 150 miles north of the Namibia-Angolan border, and denied that South African aircraft had been shot down during the operation while attacking civilian targets.

General Viljoen did say, however, that Soviet-made Sam 8 missiles had been fired at South African fighter planes, fuelling speculation that the destruction of anti-aircraft missile sites could be one of the main aims of the operation.

Another suggestion is that the South Africans want to punish the Angolans for their brusque rejection of Pretoria's recent offer to disengage its forces over a trial period of 30 days from January 31, 1984, provided Angola undertook to restrain SWAPO and Cuban forces

Protest note to Thatcher Catalans back IRA bombers

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Nationalistes d'Esquerra (Left Nationalists), a minority Catalan political organisation has sent a letter of protest to Mrs Margaret Thatcher about suggestions that Sinn Fein the political wing of the IRA, should be outlawed after the Harrods bombing. It called such a possibility "a repressive measure which attacks the national freedoms of the Irish people."

According to a communiqué distributed to journalists here the Catalan party also sent a note to Sinn Fein leaders urging them "to continue the struggle for the social, political and

nationalist liberties of the Irish people".

Here in Spain, meanwhile, the Justice Ministry is studying whether political encouragement of ETA Basque terrorists is within the law.

Leaders of Herri Batasuna - the left-wing Peoples Unity party which acts as a front for ETA - said at a news conference that ETA attacks on policemen and soldiers could be considered legitimate.

Justice officials are determining whether the remarks were an infringement of the law known as "apology for terrorism".

Speaking for Herri Batasuna,

Señor Jon Idigoras said: "ETA's armed actions can be considered legitimate at this time because there are no political and democratic channels through which the aspirations of the Basque people can be realized."

He rejected the statute that gives the Basques autonomous regional government because it did not include the possibility of the Basque country seceding from Spain. He called the police and the Army "occupation forces".

Another prominent member of the Basque party said: "The Spanish flag is the symbol of oppression. It is not our flag."

Spain shuts airport and discos for safety's sake

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Reacting to recent disasters, the civil aviation authorities closed Barajas airport, Madrid for eight hours yesterday and will do so again today for repairs to runways, taxiways and lighting systems, while the authorities in several Spanish cities have closed dozens of discotheques for alleged breaches of safety regulations.

According to airport sources, the airliner collision and fire on December 7 which took the lives of 93 people, damaged asphalt surfaces and signal lights, making repairs necessary. However, the Spanish Airline Pilots' Association complained

immediately after the disaster, that there were defects in the marking and lighting of runways and taxiways which were a cause of the accident.

The discotheques' closure follows a fire in Madrid on December 17 which resulted in 83 deaths. Mayors in many cities have been closing discotheques, cinemas and other places of entertainment which fail to provide adequate safety conditions.

The mayor of the south-eastern city of Murcia is reported to have shut 20 establishments, provoking an angry protest from local businessmen.

Andropov's letter of apology leaves gaps

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Andropov's unprecedented absence from this week's delayed Central Committee plenum has caused anxiety among party officials despite the ailing leader's determined attempt to give a strong lead from behind the scenes.

Officials reportedly believe that while assurances that Mr Andropov's disability is "temporary" may be largely accepted in Russia, the lack of visible Kremlin leadership could seriously affect Moscow's dialogue with the West.

In a speech made in absentia on Monday and published on the front page of Pravda yesterday, Mr Andropov apologized for not attending the plenum because of "temporary causes". "I have attentively studied all the materials which underlie the plan for the coming year," he wrote. "I thought a great deal about them and was preparing to speak and outline some of my ideas".

Observers said that this was intended to give the impression that Mr Andropov had recently recovered but suffered a temporary relapse. An explanation accepted by some Russians. Others were sceptical, however, pointing out that Mr Andropov had not appeared for five months and was clearly seriously ill.

"The destructive US policy does not end with the announced withdrawal from UNESCO," the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily, Rude Pravo, said. Washington's hostility to the UN had been shown in September, when New York and New Jersey authorities refused to let Soviet Aircraft land

"changes for the better", but added: "This is only the beginning".

Mr Andropov said that the 1984 plan would both raise production of consumer goods and "maintain the country's defences at a proper level". Failings in the Soviet system had led to "a certain strain" in drawing up the plan, but the task now was to work hard despite the difficulties - "of which there are many" - and eliminate bottlenecks.

"I have to say bluntly that proper concern for reducing labour costs is not shown in some sectors", he added sternly, in a flash of the old Andropov style of a year ago.

He lashed out at incompetent managers who paid workers undeserved bonuses, at factories which failed to reduce costs by using resources wisely, at planning agency jargon and consumer goods shortages. "Inefficiency and ignorance of real market conditions mean that products are either scarce or pile up unwanted, and this gives rise to popular discontent".

One informed Russian said: "It would have been a powerful and effective speech if delivered in person. But how many in the party will listen to a man who was not there?"

Mr Andropov's speech was not that of a man who is thinking of stepping down, and the promotion of Andropov associates such as Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov and General Viktor Chebrikov seems designed to ensure that his policies are carried out. Mr Vorotnikov, who is only 57, must now be considered a leadership contender in the Andropov mould.

With Mr Mikhail Solomentsev, aged 70, the Politburo now numbers 13, and Mr Andropov can probably count on a mathematical majority.

Tass yesterday announced that the plenum had ended with no important speeches on the second day. Observers had expected a statement on foreign policy - a subject not touched on by Mr Andropov - but it now seems that the Soviet leadership's view of East-West relations will be stated by a senior leader today or tomorrow at the Supreme Soviet.

Leading article, page 11

Lionesses put on the pill to give wildebeeste a sporting chance

From our own correspondent Etosha National Park, Namibia

An over-supply of lions in Namibia's Etosha National Park, one of the world's largest, most varied and perhaps least-known reserves, has given rise to Africa's most unusual experiment in family planning.

Led by Dr Hu Berry, a research biologist, a small team of specialists is hoping to establish that the park's lion population can be controlled by implanting time-release contraceptives in lionesses rather than by the traditional method of culling.

The park takes its name from the Etosha Pan, a bleached expanse of alkaline clay stretching to the horizon and hundreds of feet deep, which occupies more than a fifth of the reserve's 8,530 square miles. The pan is believed to be the dried-out bed of a prehistoric lake.

Driving out along one of the spits jutting into the pan, you can easily imagine yourself a lone explorer on some dead and alien planet. But the pan's wooded southern rim, punctuated by watering places, paradoxically teems with one of the richest and most visible concentrations of wild life in Africa.

Some of that richness is now threatened by man's well-



In the pre-pill age: these lion cub quins brought happiness to London Zoo.

meaning attempts at preservation. A 500-mile-long fence, completed in 1970, surrounds the park, and was intended mainly to prevent animals from straying on to adjacent farmland where they risked being shot.

It also shelters game from the Bitter bush war being fought in Ovamboland to the north between South African forces and guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which has been fighting for 17 years for Namibia's independence from South African rule.

But the fence has also stopped the age-old, seasonal migration of wildebeest, zebra

and other hoofed animals, which as a result of boreholes to provide year-round water-holes in an area prone to drought has further eased the task of hunting lions by creating perfect ambush spots, while an epidemic of anthrax, to which the big cats are immune, has furnished them with an ample supply of carcasses to feed on.

It seems that rain-filled gravel pits, left behind after the building of gravel roads for the benefit of the 50,000 visitors attracted to the park each year, are almost ideal incubators of anthrax bacteria because of the limestone soil.

This is all good news for

lions. Most lion cubs in Etosha survive beyond their first year, whereas in more normal conditions at least 75 per cent would be killed off by the rigours of a hunting life. The lion population may now be as high as 500, giving the park the highest predator-to-prey ratio in Africa.

It is bad news for other animals, especially those who cannot stray far from water. The number of blue wildebeest, for example, has dropped from 25,000 in the mid-1950s to only 2,500 today. The Zebra population has also declined.

Putting lionesses on the pill could be part of the answer. In South Africa's Kruger National

Park, Dr Berry recalls, some 65 per cent of the entire lion population was shot in the mid-1970s. But within 17 months the number of lions was bigger than ever.

"As a result of this and other experiences we are now very wary of culling predators", Dr Berry says. "So we are testing contraception on lionesses. Contraception is more humane, does not destroy the genetic stock and is reversible".

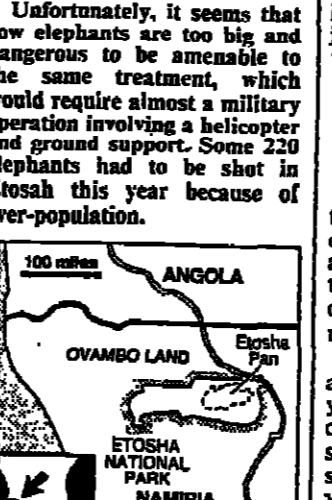
Since July last year ovulation-suppressing capsules have been implanted in the shoulder muscle of 10 lionesses from five prides by Dr Berry and a gynaecologist who comes up from Windhoek, the Nam-

bian capital, for the purpose. Each capsule is reckoned to have a life of two to five years.

The lionesses are first immobilized by an anaesthetic dart fired from a shotgun. During the implant operation, they are blindfolded to shield their eyes, which stay open from the sun, and sprayed with water to prevent over-heating as they no longer pant when drugged.

None of the 10 lionesses has had a cub since being treated, and rigorous monitoring has so far failed to reveal any adverse side-effects.

Unfortunately, it seems that cow elephants are too big and dangerous to be amenable to the same treatment, which would require almost a military operation involving a helicopter and ground support. Some 220 elephants had to be shot in Etosha this year because of over-population.



Grave problem for China

By Tony Samstag

About six million Chinese, the equivalent of the population of Switzerland, die each year, and burying them all would theoretically need 10,000 acres of land and more than 70 million cu ft of timber.

The Chinese government is, accordingly, intensifying its 30-year-old campaign to promote cremation and simplify funeral services, according to Earthscan, the London-based environment and development information agency.

Just over 10 per cent of

China's land is cultivated, averaging a quarter-acre for each of its one billion people. "The old burial customs required selecting an auspicious grave site according to portents of wind and water", Earthscan reports. "More often than not good farmland was occupied. In Peking between 1949 and 1964 graves used over 526 acres of fertile fields."

There are about 2,500 crematoria in China which account for 90 per cent of all bodies in the cities, but only 30 per cent nationally.

مكتبة من الأصل

Help send the Best of British to L.A.

The British Olympic Association relies entirely on voluntary contributions.

Unless £1½ million is raised, in public donations, we will not be able to field a full British team at the 1984 Olympics.

So, in the same way that American Express helped the National Trust, and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, we'd like to help the British Olympic Team.

Why? Well, we know our 3,000 employees in the UK want to help and we think our 800,000 British Cardmembers would like to do their bit too.

So here's how we are going to help.

Every time you use the American Express Card at any of the 70,000 hotels, restaurants, shops and services that welcome the Card in the UK between January 1st and April 1st, we'll donate 2p to the British Olympic Appeal.

And when you buy American Express US Dollar Travellers Cheques (especially useful in Los Angeles) we will make a further donation.

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Every time a new UK Cardmember joins us, using the special Olympic application form, we'll donate no less than £5 to the fund.

With all this, we're aiming to raise at least £250,000 for the British Olympic Appeal, which will help to send the strongest possible team to Los Angeles, but that's not all.

We'll be organising official fund raising dinners on behalf of the British Olympic Association at hotels that accept the American Express Card, where you'll be able to help the



squad get fit while you're well fed.

And we'll be holding a series of competitions to win trips to Los Angeles to watch the Olympic Games.

If you'd like to extend even more help to the British Olympic Appeal, you can become a member of the British Olympic Association by writing to them at 1 Church Row, Wandsworth Plain, London SW18 1EH.

Remember, the more you use the American Express Card (and if you're not yet a Cardmember, our £5 donation to the Olympic effort is another excellent reason to apply), the more you'll be doing for British Olympic hopes.



Helping Britain's Team to the Olympics

The pornographic free-for-all has run out of promise in Sweden. Sex crimes have not diminished, prostitution thrives.

But a puritan backlash has begun with vigilantes raiding the porn shops and the rise of a God-loving pop star

End of the non-stop sex show

By Chris Mosey

Stockholm The first snowflakes of winter dance in the air to a strange beat. In the futuristic heart of Stockholm - a square called Sergels Torg which is bleakly modern and paved in black and white - Maria Johansson, aged 65, is seated at a portable electric organ playing and singing, slightly off-key, "I have a Friend in Jesus".

Behind her, a monolith of steel in concrete and glass, stands The House of Culture, built like everything else in sight in the late 1950s or early 1960s. The same building extends backwards across a walkway into another towering modern edifice, which until recently housed the Swedish Parliament. This is now empty, waiting to play host to the Stockholm Peace Conference in 1984. In an act of unconscious symbolism, the parliamentarians have withdrawn from this desolate new frontier to their former headquarters on Holy Ghost Island in the city's medieval Old Town.

Maria looks up through watery eyes and smiles. "I have been singing here for 11 years", she says. "There is a need for God's message here - there are so many unhappy people in Sweden."

Three steps away on the Underground lies another of Maria's venues, an older, more human square called Odenplan, where drunks shiver on park benches in the shadow of Gustav Vasa Church and commuters hurry through the gathering darkness to catch buses bound for the suburbs.

Behind the church, just across the street, is a garishly painted red and blue door with the words "Non-Stop Show" stencilled across it. This is no longer true - the show has stopped. Sexorama, another desolate new frontier of sorts, has also been abandoned.

A container by the kerbside has been filled with the non-saleable fittings of a club that once lured tourists from all over the world to "Europe's wildest sex show". In a dimly-lit basement the photofit blondes with empty eyes were overdressed if they wore stockings.

Today Sexorama has been gutted by the bailiffs. Such accoutrements that were of value - amplification equipment to back the striptease, flashing

lights, mirrors from the private posing rooms, TV sets that once screened raunchy movies in a darkened video saloon, for example - have been confiscated by a state tax collector with the wonderfully appropriate name of Miss Birgitta Prim.

Two women, Miss Prim and Sweden's former Minister of Social Affairs, Mrs Karin Soder, have between them contrived to end the reign of Mr Ulrich Geismar, once dubbed "Sweden's King of Sex" by the nation's tabloid press. Mr Geismar now lives quietly in Spain, where he has been "unavailable for comment" for some time. Miss Prim would like to ask him about the £150,000 she claims he owes in back taxes.

Mrs Soder is just happy about his departure. The last vestiges of Geismar's "kingdom" are the now-padded doors of Sexorama and his other property, the more opulent Chat Noir, of which he once boasted on local television that customers included major Swedish multinational companies entertaining foreign buyers. Chat Noir was the top end of the market in a twilight world of sexual fantasy which is being slowly eradicated.

A law drafted by Mrs Soder, which came on the statute book this year, has so severely curbed the activities of Sweden's sex clubs that most of them have shut up shop. At their peak in the early 1970s there were 14 in Stockholm alone; today there are just two, and one seedy topos "bar", where no alcoholic beverages may be served.

A country that only a decade ago was lauded by liberals the world over for its daring social reforms and sexual liberty has, in the space of relatively few years, gone back to its roots. A narrow puritanism has always been the dormant heart of a basically agrarian society, hurred into the modern age by an industrial revolution which arrived only in the latter half of the last century.

Towards the end of the 1960s and in the early 1970s, before the traumas of recurring energy crises and economic tribulations became commonplace, the future was always only just around the corner, like a shining liberated dream beckoning seductively. Everything seemed possible for those in the vanguard of social change.

Their crusade towards a brave new world that never arrived led, in 1971, to the repeal of the already outdated Law on the Offending of Decency and Morality, which had until the mid-1960s been used by the police to suppress pornography. With its disappearance the floodgates opened.

Instead "sexually provocative poses", Detective Inspector Torsten Aslund, of the Stockholm vice squad, said: "The law allows striptease and the showing of pornographic films, nothing more. A series of raids and court cases has resulted. 'Some of my best customers are policemen nowadays', said Mrs Sundin. 'As a taxpayer, I feel I am getting something back for my money.'"

Curiously, it is often the selfsame sexual liberals of yesteryear who now spearhead the advance of the new puritanism in Swedish society. Mr Hans Nestius, chairman of a peculiarly Swedish organization called the National Association for Sexual Information, which fought for the repeal of the Law on the Offending of Decency and Morality, now bitterly regrets the consequences.

"When we took up the fight against the ban on pornography, the pornography that was around was shoddy, very bad quality. We thought we would bring about a happy, warm, sensual pornography - everything should be free and open", he says.

From his office window in Kungsgatan, Stockholm's equivalent to London's Oxford Street, Mr Nestius now looks out on the HiSon emporium, Sweden's biggest pornographic book shop, lately extended to include private film and video booths and an air-conditioned cinema. Mr Nestius regards it with disgust.

"Pornography doesn't stand for sexual freedom, for openness, for sexual radicalism, as I once maintained myself. It is dark and musty inside a porn shop - there is a lot of shame and guilt there. The men who stand leafing through the merchandise always look dreadfully oppressed."

The arguments the sexual liberals used in the 1960s have nearly all rebounded on them: that pornography and the sex clubs would provide a sexual outlet for the handicapped and the elderly (surveys show that customers are overwhelmingly ordinary, usually married men, most frequently in their thirties or forties); that sex crimes would diminish as repressed sexual energy was given an escape valve (apart from indecent exposure,

all such crimes have increased steadily); that prostitution would become a thing of the past (the world's oldest profession still plies its trade).

Nestius, typical of the "New Puritan", sees no irony in his change of heart. He is merely continuing the crusade for sexual freedom, but in a different way. His association's July campaign, titled "Fight for Love", in which he and other members visited the holiday beaches of the Baltic island of Gotland quizzing and advising young Swedes on their sexual habits, was a huge success (certainly a greater success than it would have been at Blackpool, where such "openness" might well have earned Mr Nestius a fat lip).

The New Puritanism has also seen the emergence in Swedish society of the sex vigilante. Groups of militant women carry out night-time raids on porn shops and sex clubs, daubing them with feminist slogans and occasionally harassing customers. It was these women who plastered posters all over Stockholm earlier this year with the registration numbers of kerb-crawling cars and advised people to telephone the licensing authority for the names and addresses of the owners. (Something the authority is required by law to divulge).

The new mood is no better exemplified than in pop music. Yesterday's idol was blonde Abba vocalist Agnetha Faltskog, who once bounced around the stage with a vitality that earned her the title "sexiest bottom in Europe". Today's is Carola Hagkvist, aged 17, whose stage garb is usually a singularly shapeless white judo costume, and who delights in talking about her belief in God.

Foreigners are frequently caught unaware by the shift in Swedish attitudes. Dennis Hopper arrived to take the leading role in a new British-Swedish coproduction titled *The Inside Man* wearing a "Pornography is Fun" badge, given him by Larry Flint, publisher of *Hustler*, the notorious American men's magazine.

"I gather it no longer is", he said. "I've been getting some strange looks. I'd better get rid of the thing."



Maria Johansson spreads the gospel. Right top, pop singer Carola Hagkvist and, above, porn-fighter Karin Soder



Ulrich Geismar, the king of sex whose realm is now behind locked doors

Mrs Gina Sundin, originally from Spain, is one of the few survivors. She runs an establishment called Cabaret Nana, an oasis of flashing lights, loud disco music and soundtracks laden with heavy breathing, at the end of an exceptionally grey, dismal street not far from Stockholm's Central Station.

Although her club has picked up many of Ulrich Geismar's former customers, life in a changing society has not been easy. "When I first opened, everything was allowed", she says. "Now they want to forbid it all. Swedes have never really been able to enjoy themselves without suffering from a bad conscience afterwards. Soon there will be more things forbidden in this society than are permitted."

Mrs Soder's law stopped only just short of banning striptease. It outlawed

moreover... Miles Kington Cheese and ham, Big Brother

The last time I renewed my TV licence, I decided to round it up to £50 from £46 in order to give the BBC a bit of spare cash I have always believed the licence fee was far too small, especially when I am being employed by radio, and I sincerely believed that if I paid the bill, and left a £4 tip, it would make the BBC feel better, and the tip might come back to me eventually. So I sent off a cheque for £50. It came back, marked "incorrect amount". I sent it off again, explaining that it was the correct amount, plus a bit over. It came back again, with a letter telling me that there was no machinery for accepting any amount except £46. Back I wrote again, asking in that case how I could donate the extra money to the BBC. The gentleman in Swansea replied, humorously under the circumstances I thought that I should send the money direct to the BBC and that the best man to get in touch with was the Director-General. This I did not do. Bribery is not a thing I condone, and although my motives would have been of the purest, it would have looked very bad if it ever got out that I was sending cash direct to the top of the BBC, so I decided to keep the money for a rainy day. In any case, one never knows, does one, just what might have happened to the money it might have been used to buy another American programme, or keep Desmond Wilcox on, something I didn't entirely approve of, and then it would have been embarrassing to write and ask for my money back.

The rainy day came sooner than I thought. I was travelling to Bath by Inter-City 125, and British Rail have now tinted the windows so that every day on Inter-City looks like a rainy day. I went to the buffet. I dithered between buying a toasted ham sandwich and buying a toasted cheese sandwich. Eventually I compromised by asking for a toasted ham and cheese sandwich. "Can't do that, I'm afraid, sir." "Haven't got the ingredients?" I asked. "Oh, yes, we've got the ham and cheese all right, but we haven't got a price for a ham and cheese sandwich. Sorry, sir."

It was the TV licence situation all over again. He hadn't got the machinery. There was a little regulation which stopped him from solving the problem, even though he could quite easily have improvised round it. And this situation crops up again and again in British life. Personally, I feel it's because we haven't got a written constitution. Not being governed by a constitution is always said to be a good thing, and no doubt it is considering the constitutions that some nations have landed up with, but it has to be compensated for somewhere, and we compensate by having millions of tiny regulations.

Because we feel instinctively that they are silly, we tend to by-pass them wherever possible. The most notable example of this is the work-to-rule syndrome. Whenever trade unionists want to protest against something, one of their first weapons is threatening to work to rule - in other words, threatening to obey all the regulations which they should be obeying all along. Behaving normally is seen to be an exceptional state of affairs. Meanwhile, without realizing it perhaps, we have all become used to winking at regulations and passing by on the other side. George Orwell had a word for it. He called it doublethink. When we talk about doublethink, we like to see it on a grand scale and think of Russia, where they talk communism in public and think other thoughts in private. But on a petty scale, we are just as guilty of doublethink. Big Brother isn't watching us; he too is working out ways of getting round the rules.

Incidentally, Orwell also forecast that Big Brother's It's George Orwell's preview by 1984, looking down at us. Well, there is a face looking down at us as we go into the famous year, and a name that is on everybody's lips, but it isn't Big Brother's. It's George Orwell's, previewing a thousand productions and features. I wonder if he would have been amused.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 233)

Grid for a crossword puzzle with numbered squares.

- ACROSS: 1 Pronouncement (6), 2 Serious crime (6), 3 Live under canvas (5), 4 Kill (4), 5 Large area (8), 6 Run away (3), 7 Newspaper chief (6), 8 Plywood layer (6), 9 Adirondack (3), 10 Deliberate (8), 11 Heron (8), 12 Troubled state (4), 13 Small cupboard (6), 14 Origin (6), 15 Italian leader (4), 16 Comrade (5), 17 Telephone computer link (5), 18 Concentrate (5), 19 Swelling (4), 20 Pterostichus (6), 21 Province (5), 22 Waste (5), 23 Perspiration (5), 24 Cargo transporter (6), 25 Enclosed concrete areas (4), 26 Land slave (4), 27 Year's record (5), 28 Valuable property (5), 29 Haven (5), 30 Compostionate exclamation (4), 31 Excessively sentimental (4)

SOLUTION TO No 232. ACROSS: 1 Cuckoo 5 Baby 9 Unity 9 Entered 11 Panchadh 13 Fall 15 Vengeance 18 Ace 19 Slapdash 22 Chapaty 23 Cairo 24 Jerk 25 Nation DOWN: 2 Union 3 Key 4 One in a million 5 Both 6 Barrage 7 Dumps 10 Dot 12 Haha 14 Snip 15 Vantage 16 Talc 17 Chink 20 Arrigo 21 Balk 23 Cut

Advertisements for 'Homebound' and 'DONALD C Sale on Tuesday, Jan 8 WILLI LOWDEN LONDON'.

A treasure house built on Johnson's baby powder

The fine art of marrying well

Mrs Seward Johnson, Basia to her friends, is forming a stupendous art collection. She spent £390,000 at Sotheby's in July on a French lacquer cabinet, the highest price ever paid at auction for a piece of furniture. This was the first time that she was rumbled by the press as an auction purchaser, which is pretty good going since she and her husband, who died in May at the age of 87, have been quietly buying at top prices for 14 years.

From poor immigrant to museum-builder

She explains that they were deceived because she likes to have very large rooms so that she can hang her tapestries - she prefers Flemish sixteenth-century courtly scenes. "Besides, I like to have air." For furniture she prefers the French eighteenth century and the English Adam style. "And George III," she adds, "for the library bookcases." However if something is nice enough she will buy a piece outside her favourite periods. She spent £15,120 on a pair of early eighteenth century English *Petit point* embroidered cushions at Christie's Godmersham sale in June. Mrs Johnson had never spoken to the press before. "Please, no photographs," she said to me. "I don't want people to recognize me when I go around. I have many enemies - I think they envy me." They would have very good

reason for envy. She arrived in America from Poland in 1968 with \$100 and married into the Johnson's baby powder fortune. It is a vast pharmaceutical business and Mr Seward Johnson left her around \$300m at his death.

There were six children by his two previous marriages, his widow explains, and he settled \$160m on each of them about ten years ago on the understanding that this was their share and they should expect no more at his death. "I had made friends with all of them," she says sadly. "And they all came to the house. But 24 hours after the will was opened they were all contesting it. Now I can spend nothing until the legal actions have been settled."

"Nothing" on Mrs Johnson's lips is a relative term. As she passed through London recently on her way to Rome, she commissioned a bell to be cast at the Whitechapel Foundry for the chapel she is building in the woods near her house. The chapel is based on a design by Vignola, the sixteenth century Italian architect, and features a square exterior, circular interior and dome. The purpose of the chapel is to house Mrs Johnson's collection of religious art and it is to be opened to the public. Beside the chapel a bell tower is to rise.

On one side of the big bronze bell, the death of Mr Seward Johnson this year is to be commemorated, on the other the foundation of Solidarity in Poland in 1980. Mrs Johnson, aged 64, was

born in Poland and is a passionate Polish patriot. Her husband came to share her love of the country which they visited many times during their 14-year marriage. Polish workmen built the pavilion in the Johnson's park, and Polish craftsmen made the magnificent stone and wrought iron baroque gateway. On either side of these gates Mrs Johnson intends to build a public art gallery. One is to house her collection of Renaissance art, the other her collection of Greek and Roman antiquities. Mrs Johnson is unostentatious in appearance. She doesn't go in for jewelry, "but I like nice clothes" from Paris and Rome. Her soft brown hair has been simply dressed by a top hairdresser. She has a stocky Polish build and exudes vitality. After completing a BA and MA in art history at Breslau University, she managed to obtain a visa for a five-day visit to Rome in 1967. Once there, she persuaded the American embassy to allow her an immigrant visa. In 1968 she left Rome for New York, where she knew not a soul. She distanced New York, where the Polish immigration committee had booked her into a cheap hotel. Knowing virtually no English, she decided that housework or cooking were her only hopes for a job. "I thought I was a good cook," she laughs. She got a job in the Johnson's country home. "At that time Mrs Johnson liked me immediately," she says, somehow managing to pronounce the name in just that way that a servant refers to her mistress. This was the reigning Mrs Johnson, whose place she was to take.



French lacquered cabinet once owned by Louis XVI that fetched a record price at Sotheby's in July

"I didn't know how to cook when you were in our house working." "I never expect it, because we could hardly talk to each other. Sometimes I took his tea upstairs. And I remember at Cape Cod one time I had a beautiful bathing suit I bought for \$20 and I was passing by his boat on the beach and he looked at me. His daughter Jennifer told me later that the boat was nearly crashing because I was on the beach."

Basia was promised 'help for a better life'

And then something extraordinary happened. She received a message from some Polish friends that Mr Johnson was very anxious to see her. He sent a car to collect her and bring her to his office. "I came not knowing what is going on."

He said, "I fell in love with you when you were in our house working." "I never expect it, because we could hardly talk to each other. Sometimes I took his tea upstairs. And I remember at Cape Cod one time I had a beautiful bathing suit I bought for \$20 and I was passing by his boat on the beach and he looked at me. His daughter Jennifer told me later that the boat was nearly crashing because I was on the beach."

According to Basia, the millionaire now told her, "I like to help you with a better life. I like to send you to school of diving because I am very interested in the ocean."

Seward Johnson confided another secret to his former servant. "He said, 'My dream - not only the ocean - but always my dream was to have an art collection. I don't dare collect because I don't

have the right education.'" He and Basia went to an art dealer where Basia was able to demonstrate her expertise. They sealed the beginning of their romance with the purchase of a Mondrian, a Monet and a Picasso.

Johnson got a divorce from his wife and in 1971, he and Basia married. "We had already a lot of paintings by that time," says Basia. Along with art collecting, the couple pursued Johnson's love of oceanography. They established the Harbor Branch Foundation at Fort Pierce in Florida.

Basia Johnson looks on her inheritance as enormous fun, but also, she says, as a sacred trust to the memory of her husband. "I know my husband's dreams," she says. "That is why he wanted to leave it all to me."

Geraldine Norman

مكتبة من الأصل

COMMENT

Homeward bound

It has become crazily anti-feminist to suggest that the home is the most important place in the world...

Years ago I remember being told by a Viennese savant of great years that there was no more deprived woman in the world than the modern western housewife...

Indeed, it is much of the poignancy of the woman in Noel Coward's Brief Encounter that her life was so confined to the Boats, the Karamah with the string band, and the railway tea room...

Yet she probably finds more tranquility than modern working women, behind a dark curtain...

My old Viennese described a peasant life he had seen all over east and middle Europe. It had its failings, but it had economic and domestic equality between men and women...

However you cannot be a peasant farmer in Greenwich or Grimsby and Celia Johnson's stoicism is somehow inappropriate now...

Believing, as I do, that modern methods of economic production - especially because they depend on a prodigious use of natural resources...

I have a feeling that a great deal of relaxed, lateral, hard thinking is going to have to be done over the next few years...

Richard North

Castaways come in from the cold

Cindy Buxton and Annie Price have braved war and isolation to become two of Britain's leading wildlife film-makers, as Nancy Mills reports

When Cindy Buxton and Annie Price arrived on the island of South Georgia in the South Atlantic in October 1981, all they had on their minds were king penguins - the three feet high variety identifiable by the swatch of red under the chin.

Argentina tried and failed to capture the two English film-makers. The Argentinians sent a message saying they were coming to get us...

At the same time, though, the two women had good reason to be afraid. However, stranded as they were, they coolly continued to mingle with the penguins...

Brushing aside their "war" experiences, they returned to England to put together Stranded on South Georgia. The programme was shown in Britain as well as in countries as far apart as Finland, Japan and Yugoslavia...

Buxton and Price specialise in photographing strange beasts in faraway places. They travel to isolated environments, set up camp for an average of six months and film what they see...

"Sometimes being a woman can be a slight disadvantage", Buxton acknowledges, "but every year it gets easier and easier because you can show your latest film...

Working in a theatre can afford periods of inactivity and solitude. I have welcomed this. With one brother embracing the Christmas spirit with such vengeance that he transported a large tree through the house up to his bedroom...

During the week of pre-Christmas dress rehearsals I was posted at the stage door. Initially I was not very happy. Wandering around an empty theatre, unlocking deserted rooms...

Since I sat there in virtual isolation I did begin to wonder whether there were two stage doors.

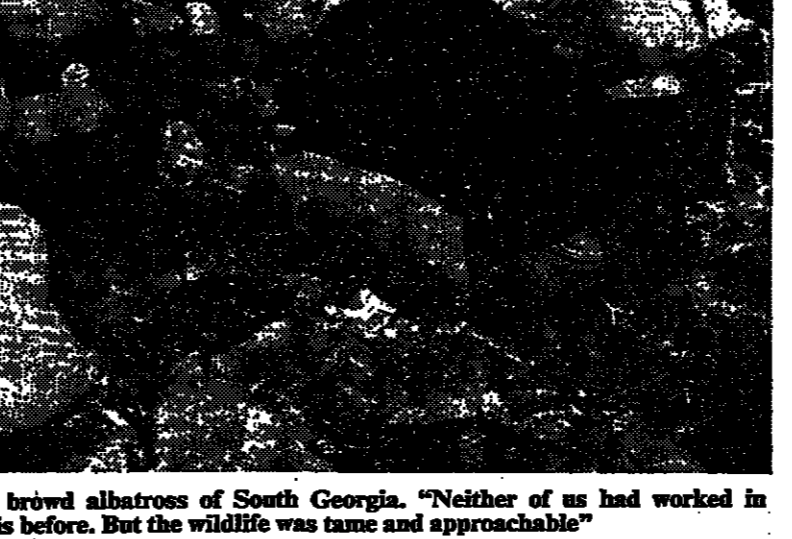


Annie Price, left, and Cindy Buxton. They continued to film wildlife as the Falklands war raged around them

South Georgia is one of the most isolated, unwelcoming places on earth. With an average temperature of 32F (0C) with 30 mph winds, it is a perfect environment for penguins and elephant seals.

During their stay, Buxton and Price lived in an eight-foot square hut two miles from a huge king penguin colony.

But the wildlife was tame and approachable, so that part was easy. Buxton says she spent her first eight film-making years in the heat of Africa.



Cindy Buxton among the black browed albatross of South Georgia. "Neither of us had worked in conditions like this before. But the wildlife was tame and approachable"

Price took all the still pictures while Buxton shot the documentary footage. They shared the daily chores, including the melting of snow for drinking water.

Buxton and Price have worked together for three years. Before that, Buxton shot documentaries on her own. "Being alone didn't bother me, but sometimes now I wonder how I coped."

"The Argentinians said they were coming to get us"

"I do get a lot of people approaching me, but most of them I'd never consider", says Buxton. "I didn't want to take someone who would get fed up after four weeks."

The pair have been filming green turtles, sea birds and native wildlife on Ascension Island, a volcanic island in the South Atlantic with a population of about 1,000...

Change from South Georgia. Of her film-making philosophy, Buxton says, "I choose my own subjects. I'll visit the location if I can. Then I'll write out the basic story line of the film or films."

Buxton has worked for Anglia for almost 12 years, initially as an independent film-maker, but for the past eight years under contract.

Stranded on South Georgia will be broadcast on the ITV network on Sunday.

© International Herald Tribune

FIRST PERSON

My lease of life

A year ago I had the largest of the three lobes of my right lung removed after a malignant tumour the size of a cricketball was discovered lodged there.

At the time of my operation I feared I had pushed my last pedal and crawled my last length. The physiotherapists had no information about the physical capabilities of people with one or one and a bit lungs.

Whatever, I've proved to my own satisfaction that cancer is not necessarily the end, either of life or an active physical existence.

It is coping with the psychological rather than the physical aftermath which is the most difficult. I put a brave face on it but I'm a cancerphobe all the same.

Buxton has worked for Anglia for almost 12 years, initially as an independent film-maker, but for the past eight years under contract.

The only antidote I knew of was strenuous physical exercise. Jerking awake, I would leap upon my bike and pedal off manically towards the hills.

One entirely new symptom I suffer from which did not afflict me before surgery, has been caused by exposure to the alternative approach to cancer school.

One (by which I mean me) searches around for some explanation as to why the man up the road who smoked so much had to have a cow fitted to his head, enjoys disgustingly good health whilst somebody else (me again) goes down with cancer.

I wish I had thought of the idea first, for not lacking in material myself I could have written the book while sitting by the stage door.

Sarah Foot

DIARY OF A JOB HUNTER

In which Sarah Foot, Exeter University 1980-83, BA 2:1 History, takes a temporary job in a theatre and declines a career in music

This was no preparation for "front of house" work, which demanded periods of rather frenzied activity when loneliness was not a problem.

My main contact with the outside world was a technician. His was not a particularly talkative nature. Having informed me that I would be extremely lonely - rather an understatement - he only paused to comment on my continued existence.

At first I was highly industrious. I wrote letters, read the papers, made numerous abortive attempts at crossword, finished a book - reading as opposed to writing it.

At least I could sell the ice-cream and varieties of cans, chocolates and biscuits consumed during one performance, but this is no job for the fastidious - ice-cream is particularly sticky when melted.

Emptying ashtrays is worse, as they are made in what can only be described as the most idiotic design. When I tipped them upside down all the ash stayed in.

Since I now know the story extremely well and can also sing a number of the tunes, I did feel that it was unnecessary for my brothers to provide me with a joint present of a Hansel and Gretel record.

At least I could sell the ice-cream.

Famine and feast

With eight of the twelve days of Christmas still to go I prescribe hysterical water for the cook and surfelt water for those who have tarried too long at the groaning board.

Distilling was only one of many arts necessary to the mistress of an eighteenth century household, and it occupies just two pages of Hannah Glasse's famous book The Art of Cookery Made Plain and Easy.

Hannah Glasse, née Allgood, eloped in her teens and came to London from the north of England. She must have been a formidable energetic as well as spirited woman.

THE TIMES COOK

Books' reprint has a helpful glossary which is both scholarly, and as readable as Hannah Glasse's own words.

Students of old texts quickly become familiar with oddities of terminology, method and spelling which baffle readers new to their ways.

French chefs get the other side of her tongue. "A Frenchman, in his own Country would dress a fine Dinner of twenty Dishes, and all genteel and pretty, for the Expence he

Any host too mean to serve Smirnoff will need to refer to this free handy pocket dictionary

chârtre n. L. (arch.) peasant person of low birth, 2. ill-bred fellow, (arch.) surly or singularly person, hence - 'sat a ill-bred surly nigardly' (OE cont., M.L.G. Rev. E.W.G. Rev. man)

SMIRNOFF IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH IT ISN'T SMIRNOFF

DONALD CAMPBELL Sale commences Tuesday, January 3rd 8 WILLIAM ST. LOWNDES SQUARE, LONDON, SW1.

CUBES From £6 Design Centre selected storage-cubes to wardrobes, wall shelving and trundles - for home/business. Mail-order catalogue (or visit us) CubeStore 58 Parkside Rd SW1 0T-994 99V. (also 58 Parkside)

Any host too mean to serve Smirnoff will need to refer to this free handy pocket dictionary. SMIRNOFF IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH IT ISN'T SMIRNOFF

THE TIMES DIARY

Dobson's choice

Frank Dobson, Labour MP for Holborn and St Pancras, has written a starry letter to the Prime Minister suggesting that the venue of the next world economic summit, to be held next June, should be switched from Lancaster House to somewhere in Hackney or Tower Hamlets so that those presiding over the current world recession can observe at first hand the disastrous consequences of what is happening to the worst-off people in our capital city.

In confidence

The computer sub-committee of the Commons Services Committee is finding its job hard going. Earlier this month a trip to the United States and Canada to research information technology was cancelled after accusations of junking.

Moved to tears

A colleague who planned to move into a new house in Buckinghamshire over Christmas was shocked to discover that the property was owned by a brewery anxious to protect a pub long since disappeared.

Easy buck

It is the season of the year when certain privileged people, including the Prime Minister, the Lord Mayor of London, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, receive a good-sized piece of venison under the Queen's Warrant.

That figures

The Civil Service's Management and Personnel Office broke new ground in its annual report on public bodies for 1983, when it produced figures on the number of men and women appointed to the boards of nationalized industries during this year.

Saumur, aye

In his new book, The Illustrated Winespeak, Ronald Searle's Wicked World of Winespeak, the cartoonist attacks the uninitiated wintertime of brokers attempting to enlighten the baffled consumer regarding the more esoteric aspects of, say, Rotterdam wine.

Let's ease this bed of nails

by Alfred Morris

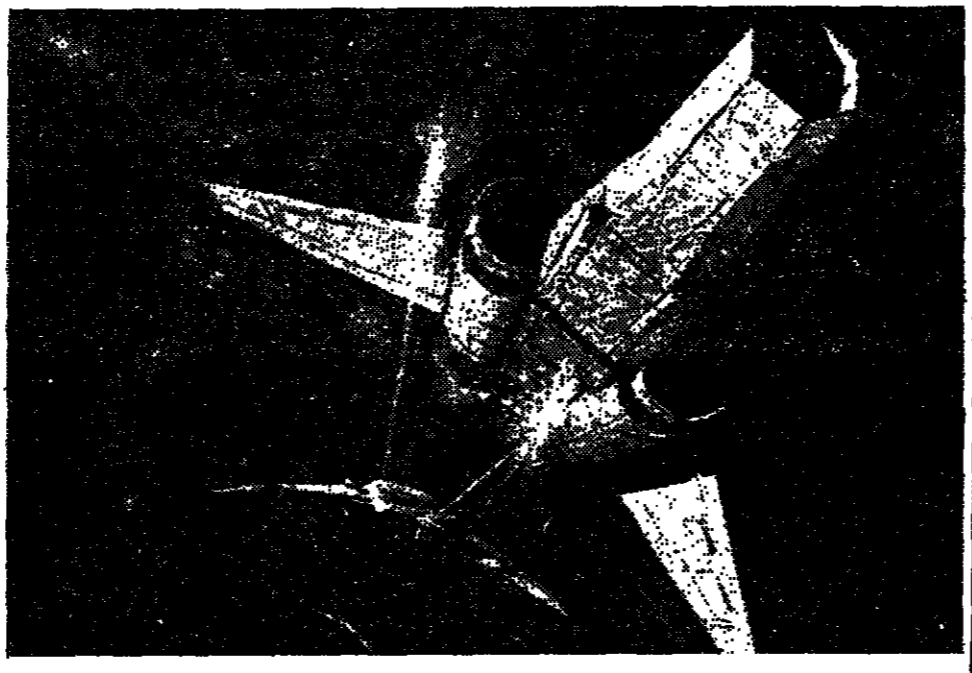
Christmas would not be Christmas without hard-luck stories with happy endings. This is a brief story about a happy ending with a cruel twist.

The present Government's interpretation of the law, but that of successive governments. The family's pleasure must have been increased by the knowledge that the tribunal's ruling would help in many other cases of avoidable hardship.

publicizing the compensation available to people who broke their contracts of employment by refusing to join a trade union, while Michael Heseltine earmarked £1m to campaign for "more positive" attitudes to nuclear arms.

Why a star wars strategy could help keep the peace

European attitudes to President Reagan's "star wars" proposals - the move to develop a space-based anti-ballistic missile system, agreed in principle a few weeks ago - have generally contained elements of both amusement and derision.



Hollywood's vision of war in space - a scene from Battlestar Galactica. If fiction was ever transformed into fact, would it be preferable to nuclear devastation on earth?

The arguments advanced by United States analysts in favour of the programme, aimed initially at long-term research, have not even been thought worthy of serious examination in Britain, despite their revolutionary nature and their possibly momentous consequences.

can cities to defend frequently "disloyal" European ones. Yet if the Soviets came to believe that the United States might feel this way, they might no longer be effectively deterred.

fraught international climate in which it would be easier to reach agreement about reductions in offensive weapons because by switching the emphasis to defensive systems, the stakes would not be so appallingly high.

Indeed, it may provide the answer to problems, inherent in the Nato strategy of flexible response, which have long been perceived by a number of those with a professional interest in strategic issues - weaknesses which politicians have generally not been keen to expose to public scrutiny.

It is objected that the whole "star wars" phenomenon is in some ways more alarming than existing weaponry. Its development would certainly result in a substantial change of nuclear doctrine and strategy.

It cannot be safely asserted that war would remain conveniently in space. What may be said is that the immediate targets would be space-borne vehicles, satellites, or satellites, rather than cities or manned military installations on earth.

The other-China card in our Hongkong hand

In the continuing negotiations with China over the future of Hongkong, Britain's highest card is not the legality of the nineteenth-century treaties. Nor are Peking's envoys impressed by references to unease in the colony at the prospect of communist rule.

No one was surprised when President Chiang declared a month later that the Nationalists would never negotiate with their old enemies. They had twice before gone to the table only to be betrayed, they believed.

think of Taiwan merely as an offshore province where they are gathering strength for a great irredentist reinvansion of the lost mainland? Twenty-five years ago that was the animating idea on the island.

What really strengthens the hand of Mrs Thatcher's representatives is China's determination not to terryfy the real audience of this high-stakes game: 18.5 million "compatriots" on Taiwan.

Deng and his comrades want Taiwan back because its recovery would mean the end of the civil war with the Nationalists who fled to the island in 1949.

Deng Xiaoping and other communist leaders have indeed conceded in public that Taiwan's prosperity greatly exceeds their own. But they are aware as well of Taiwan's free-wheeling lifestyle, its western-style pop music and its prostitution - all signs of what Peking terms "spiritual pollution".

All this would be possible under the terms of Article 31 of the Chinese constitution, which designates "special economic areas". But whereas Article 31 lays down principles applicable to both Hongkong and Taiwan, only Taiwan is mentioned in the constitution's preamble.

For the ethnic Taiwanese, descendants of coastal Chinese who have been settled on the island for centuries, reunification on any terms is abhorrent. They contend they have already suffered enough at the hands of the mainland Nationalists who appeared in 1945 to reclaim Taiwan from the Japanese, who had occupied it since 1895.

China cannot smash its way in, and if it did, few would welcome the "liberating" army. So the Chinese keep up a successful campaign to isolate their rival diplomatically, and a less successful one to hamper Taiwan's international participation in commerce, scholarship, and sport.

J. R. Spencer Life sentences: a barbaric lottery

Eight years ago Mrs Doris Croft, a middle-aged widow from Balsham, Cambridgeshire, discovered that her elderly lover was about to desert her for a younger woman.

Two months ago - as was widely reported - Mrs Pamela Megginson, a middle-aged widow from the nearby village of Whittlesford, was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Old Bailey for an identical offence.

It is simply barbaric that the same automatic life imprisonment should be imposed on the relative who puts a terminal cancer patient out of his agony, the wife who kills a husband who has systematically ill-treated her, the bank robber who shoots a cashier dead in cold blood, and the perversely tortures a child to death for sadistic gratification.

They are the Director of Public Prosecutions, or the counsel he instructs who does deal in reducing the charge to manslaughter; the judge who lets this happen; and the Home Secretary, who releases the majority of convicted murderers after some years in prison.

For most serious crimes society lays down a maximum sentence within which the judge imposes what he considers fair, the Court of Appeal correcting him if he is heavy-handed. But for the most serious crime of all the penalty is decided in a series of holes and corners, by people whose decision cannot be appealed against, and who cannot be called to account.

The author is a lecturer in criminal law and criminal procedure at Cambridge University.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne Not so bad a year after all

Distance lends enchantment, we are told. Now that I frequent the courteous calm of the Upper Chamber, I sometimes read the accounts of "The Government in Disarray" with puzzlement.

Consider the record. When the Treasury scrutinized the entrails at the end of 1982 we were told that our international accounts would be just about in balance in the year ahead. Inflation was expected to rise a bit to an annual rate of 5 per cent.

On output and on prices only the Liverpool Economics Faculty was more optimistic than the Treasury - and that is usually dismissed as a bunch of monetarist nuts. Most of the others were far more pessimistic. Yet it now looks as though output actually grew almost twice as fast as the Treasury predicted, and inflation somewhat less than a comfortable payments surplus of at least £1½ billion seems assured.

Now Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, is predicting 3 per cent growth next year and a further fall in the rate of inflation. Unemployment at long last shows signs of falling off, while our overseas sales seem to be gathering momentum (and it is fascinating to see how an industry like the shoemakers, who only 12 months ago were said to be facing extinction unless we shut out imports, are now taking on labour to meet demand - much of it for exports).



'As a sign of respect, our Lil is wearing her hairnet at half-mast'

TH... seen eighty three has been... year for the... to Parliament... The reason, ironically... The announcement... general election unavoidable... achieved all the... some of which... Committee's... of Falkland's... Committee's... records. The... should have had... with the select... But the Opposi... of all party memo... succession had... an example of... prevailing... a further delay of a... to the minor... to increase their... in the process of... more after a gap of... which has brou... to those in Wh... are some cheering... for the committees... That there has been... of MPs competing... The membership of m...

COURT AND SOCIAL

Forthcoming marriages

Dr M. Abbott and Dr J. Weeks. The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Abbott, of Hartford, Cheshire, and Jennifer Hilary, eldest daughter of Mr Robert Weeks, F.R.C.S., and Dr Avril Weeks, of Radyr, South Glamorgan.

Mr R. G. Andrews and Miss S. Falkner. The engagement is announced between Raymond Geoffrey, eldest son of Mr Derek Andrews and of Mrs Mary Andrews, 32 Dellow Avenue, Folkstone, Suffolk, and Sophia, elder child of Mr and Mrs Richard Falkner, 15 Yarell Mansions, Queens Club Gardens, London, W14 9TB.

Mr R. S. Macey and Miss M. M. Macey. The engagement is announced between Roger, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. N. Macey, of Blythe Bridge, Staffordshire, and Ruth, elder daughter of Mrs M. Hughes and the late Frank Hughes, of Nantwich, Cheshire.

Mr A. S. Mackay and Miss S. A. Scott. The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs W. S. Mackay, of Hambleton, Surrey, and Myriam, daughter of Pastor and Mrs A. M. Mackay, of Crissier, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Surgeon Lieutenant S. C. Sheard, R.N., and Miss S. A. Scott. The engagement is announced between Simon, eldest son of Dr and Mrs M. E. Sheard, of Spring Hill Court, Nailsbury, and Sally-Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. M. Scott, of Christmas Pie House, Christmas Pie, near Guildford.

Birthdays today

Sir Henry Bland, 74; Mr W. A. Camps, 73; Mr D. C. Carr, 57; Sir Andrew Maitland-Makgill-Crichton, 73; Sir Bayard Dill, 78; Mr T. W. Gould, 69; Mr Roy Hattersley, MP, 51; Lieutenant-General Sir George Lea, 71; Lord James O'Connor, 69; Mr Simon Raven, 56; Professor E. J. Richards, 69; Lord Salmon, 80; Miss Maggie Smith, 49.

Latest appointments

Mr David Evans, Master of Dulwich College, London, is to succeed Mr Roger Ellis, Master of Marlborough College, as Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference. Air Commodore Geoffrey J. B. Clarke is to be Secretary of the British Association of Occupational Therapists.

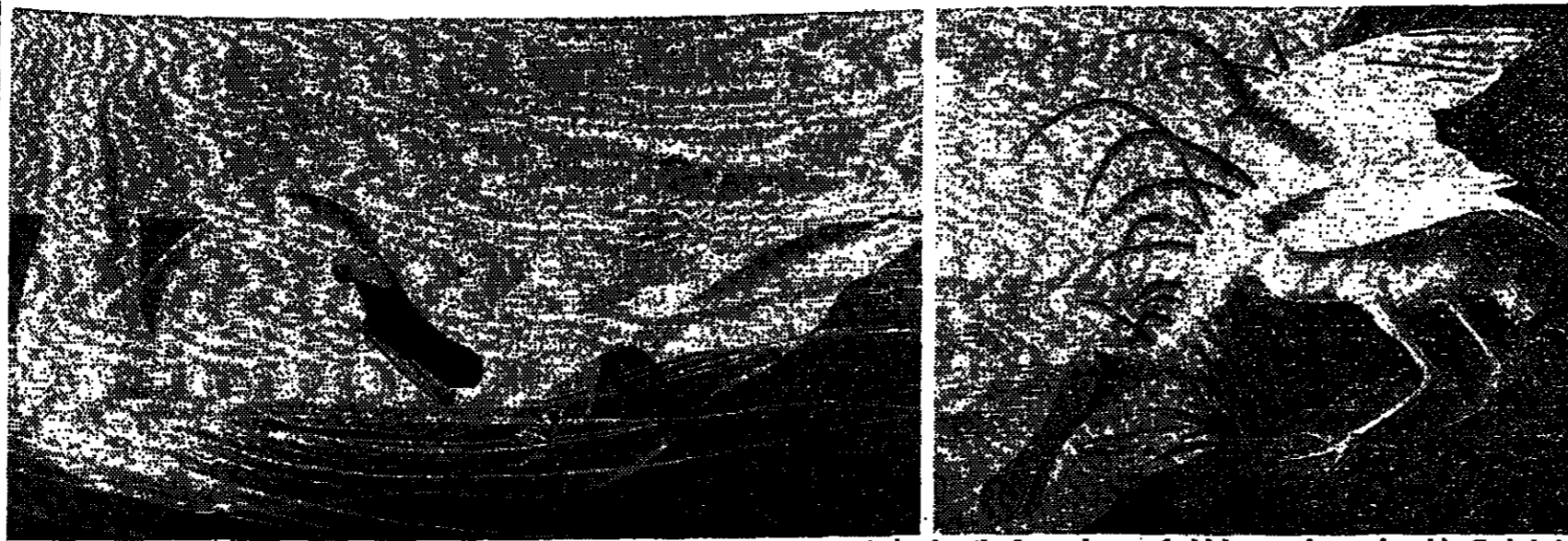
Latest wills

Allen, Mr David Charles, of North Stoke, Oxfordshire, £348,681. Barker, Mr John Arthur Bainbridge, of Aldrough St John, Richmond, North Yorkshire, £213,925. Elkins, Dorothy Olive, of Warboys, Cambridgeshire, £236,864. Roberts, Brigadier Charles Douglas, of Frant, East Sussex, £470,235. Ward, Mr Geoffrey Ernest, of Westcliff-on-Sea, £444,679. Reisser, Mr Arthur William of Regent's Park, London, intestate £365,829.

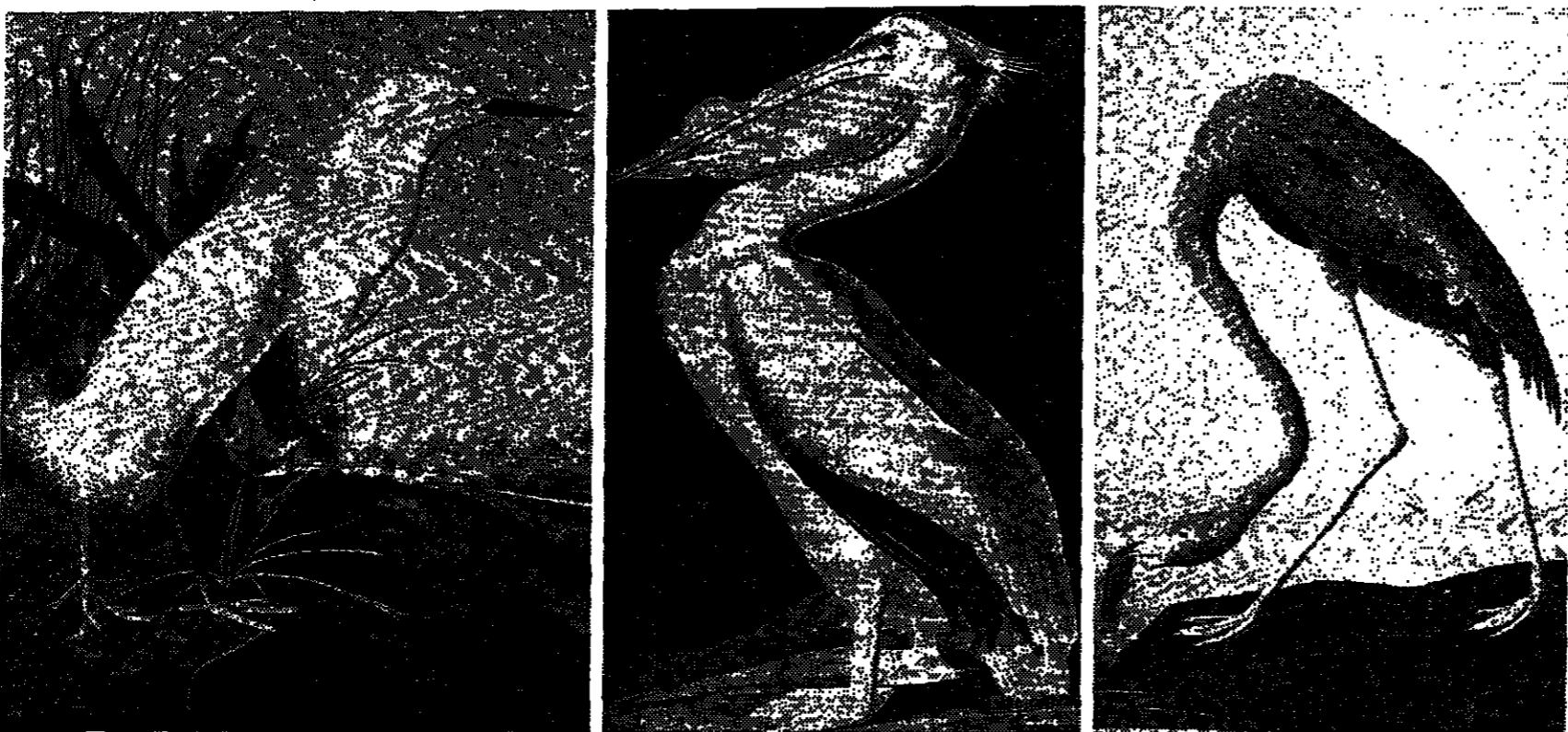
Murray to help 'Crisis' team

Mr Len Murray, the TUC general-secretary, and his wife will do an eight-hour shift today, serving tea and food and cleaning up at the Crisis at Christmas warehouse in Vauxhall, London, which provides food and accommodation for the homeless. Among other visitors have been the labour leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, and the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowly, with their wives. The Christmas event started on December 23 and hundreds of homeless people have gone to the warehouse. On Christmas Day more than 1,000 enjoyed a traditional dinner. The warehouse is open until tomorrow.

Audubon's birds set to lay a golden egg



A selection of hand coloured aquatint plates from John James Audubon's Birds of America, the four volumes of which are to be auctioned by Sotheby's on February 1. The books, dated 1827-1838, are likely to fetch more than £1m.



The plates show: (top) trumpeter swan and Roseate spoonbill; (bottom) snowy heron, American white pelican, and American flamingo.

Chess tournament goes ahead without Russians

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent. Despite the Soviet Chess Federation's failure to send any players, the fifty-ninth Hastings International Premier Chess Tournament which opens at the White Rock Pavilion today, looks stronger than ever; it includes nine international grandmasters, four international masters, and one FIDE master.

Oddly enough, the replacements necessary because of the last-minute Russian defection have strengthened the Elo rating of the tournament, so that much fine chess can be expected during the next few weeks. There are two international grandmasters from the United States: Albur and Gurevitch, and an American international master, Kudrin, who has an Elo rating higher than that of most grandmasters.

Cumbrian climbers press on with attempt at Everest

By Ronald Fax. The eight members of the Cumbrian Mount Everest expedition are determined to press ahead with their plans to attempt the West Ridge of the mountain from China next year, without support from the Mount Everest Foundation.

As they packed one and a quarter tons of equipment yesterday ready for its transport to Peking, the climbers dismissed fears that they lacked the experience or the lung capacity to succeed. The expedition led by Mr Pat Ginson of Ulverston, is costing the climbers more than £4,000 each. "Some have taken out second mortgages and others have cashed life insurance policies. But funds from American sources and a grant from ICI have helped to ease the pressure", Mr Kay said.

The party leaves for Peking in March. The Mount Everest Foundation has no power to prevent a climbing expedition from attempting any objective but its approval is invaluable in securing sponsorship. Although the Cumbrian climbers have not been told officially that their application for approval has been rejected, the foundation's new guidelines on attempting high-altitude objectives without supplementary oxygen would exclude their expedition.

The Cumbrian team is one of the smallest in size ever to attempt Everest. A smaller attempt led by Mr Chris Bonington in 1982 ended with the disappearance of Mr Peter Boardman and Mr Joe Tasker, high on the East North-east ridge.

Cash crisis may close animal sanctuary

By Tony Samstag. A home for old, sick and unwanted animals will have to close within a week or two if it cannot raise at least £8,000. The 18-year-old Sanctuary for Equine Animals Trust in Foram, near Heathfield, East Sussex, is without a telephone because it could no longer pay the bills and the sanctuary is threatened with the spectre of the bailiffs.

Mrs Vicki Gillard-Loft, who cares for about seventy assorted horses, goats, donkeys, ponies, sheep, cattle, dogs, cats and rabbits, blames the hot dry summer and the consequent high cost of hay for much of her predicament. She admits, however, that financial crisis has been fairly regular since she started the sanctuary, seemingly a natural consequence of family history.

Science report

Rubbish tips become a gull's delight

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Inland rubbish did not attract gulls until householders were persuaded to put it in dustbins instead of throwing it out of their back doors. Municipal dumps started to attract complaints about gulls more than 50 years ago. The reorganization of local government in the early 1970s led to a rationalization of refuse disposal in which dumping was concentrated on a smaller number of larger sites. The larger the heaps, the more the gulls flew down to feed on them. One of the counties abolished at that time was Middlesex, which included London's Heathrow airport.

The ministry scientists concentrated their gull studies on an area to the south and west of the airport. They marked some of the gulls found there and some of those birds were later seen as far away as Switzerland, Finland and Poland. Their study showed that a single large council rubbish heap could influence the feeding habits of thousands of gulls. If such a tip was closed, the birds would disappear not only from its site, but also from smaller feeding grounds near

University news

- Sheffield. Grants. Medical Research Council: £127,200 to Professor D. A. Walker for studies of chemical synthesis... Bristol. Mr D. T. Uphy, reader in the department of political economy, University College London, has been appointed to the chair in economics, in succession to Professor W. H. Buiet. Mr A. D. Chesher, lecturer in econometrics, Birmingham University, Oxford, has been appointed to the chair in econometrics, in succession to Professor A. S. Deaton. Dr A. H. Linton, reader in veterinary bacteriology, has been appointed to the chair in bacteriology. Dr G. K. Wilcock, consultant physician, department of geriatric and general medicine, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, has been appointed to the chair in care of the elderly. Dr J. E. Beringer, senior principal scientific officer, Rothamsted Experimental Station, has been appointed to the directorship of the Molecular Genetics Unit. Grants. Science and Engineering Research Council: £27,264 to Dr P. M. Kendall for research into the mechanism of the normal thyroid gland and its function in the normal thyroid gland. Dr P. M. Kendall and Dr H. N. Arthur to study the role of DNA helicase in DNA repair and replication in E. coli. Agricultural Research Council: £67,171 to Dr P. G. Armstrong to study digestion mechanism and related milk production studies. Science and Engineering Research Council: £28,050 to Dr S. Barondes and Professor I. Montoya to study soil scale velocity. Wales. Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following: MA: Mrs Eunice Jones, for her contributions to public life in Wales; Miss Dyddog Owen (education and literature); Mr Harold A. Prescott (public library services). LL.D.: Mr John Francis Burke (cancer research and medicine); Sir Edward Walter Parkes (engineering and services to the financing and administration of universities); Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani (statesman). D.Sc.: Professor John Ivan George Cadogan (chemistry and services to science). D.Litt.: Marquess of Anglesey (public service in Wales and military history); Miss Sian Phillips (actress).

OBITUARY

MISS VIOLET CARSON

Grand Old Lady of 'Coronation Street'

Miss Violet Carson, OBE, the actress, pianist and singer and, through her playing of the brusque, cross-grained Ena Sharples in the long-running serial Coronation Street, one of the best-known faces in television, died on December 26 in Blackpool. She was 85.

She played the character for over 2,000 performances and was last seen in the part which she made very much her own in February, 1980. She was made OBE in 1965, and was an honorary MA of Manchester University. In 1960 the writer Tony Warren engaged in casting the new serial remembered Miss Carson as a "no nonsense" actress he had met professionally when he was 12 and asked her to audition for the part of Ena. "Why", said Miss Carson, "She's a back-street bitch" and the legend was born.

There are television actors and actresses who seem to disappear almost completely into the roles they play. Violet Carson meant unjustly less to millions of television viewers than the formidable, aggressive Ena Sharples of Coronation Street. The hair tightly screwed into a hairnet or obtrusive curlers, the admirable punctuality with which she responded to the licensing laws, her exhorting tongue, her inability to keep her nose out of other people's business, her readiness to offer advice disguised as flagrant aggression or to offer flagrant verbal aggression without the excuse of advice, these were Ena Sharples, the reality.

Miss Violet Carson (the "Miss" was obligatory, as it was for Gracie Fields, whenever she was called to appear in Independent Television's Stars on Sunday to dispense religious words and high intentions) never really challenged the splendid monster that Miss Carson and a number of clever script-writers had created for her to embody.

This, of course, was anything but fair to a very talented entertainer-pianist, actress and singer.

Violet Carson was born in Manchester, the daughter of a Scottish miller, in a street which might, we are told, stand as a model for the later Coronation Street itself. Her parents were musical and saw to it that she played the piano - her sister took up the violin - to such effect that at the age of 15 she became pianist with the orchestra of a Manchester cinema.

Married in 1926, she was widowed two years later and returned to the piano, playing in cinemas and at small concerts and social evenings to earn her living.

HERBERT VAN THAL

Herbert van Thal, man of letters, publisher, editor, anthologist and writer, died on December 23 at the age of 79.

Herbert Maurice van Thal was born in London in 1904, and educated at St Paul's School. His whole life was dedicated, in one form or another, to books; and the justest epitaph for him is certainly that he was one of the last keepers of standards in the popular field in which he made his living.

He was very well read, especially in Victorian literature. Lunch as his guest at the Reform Club with him was invariably, for a fellow author, a treat: old-fashioned courtesy, helpful advice, and good conversation about books.

Van Thal had been a literary agent. For some time after the Second World War he managed his own publishing company, Home & Van Thal. In more recent years he was best known as an editor, particularly of the Pan Horror Stories series, in which hundreds of thousands of readers received the benefit of his legendary wide reading and his refusal to select pulp fiction

PROF. J. van LOHUIZEN de LEEUW

A correspondent writes: Friends in many countries will be saddened to learn of the sudden death of Professor Johanna (Joan) Engelberta van Lohuizen de Leeuw at the age of 64. She was one of the leading European historians of Indian and Southeast Asian art.

Joan van Lohuizen was an indefatigable traveller and worker. Her interests and researches led her to all the countries of South Asia and to many of Southeast Asia. During 1983 she made no less than three short excursions to Gilgit, Ladakh and Indonesia. She took on a tremendous burden of teaching and many undergraduates and research students have reason to be grateful to her. She gave unstinting help and advice to students and colleagues alike.

She had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the art history of South and Southeast Asia; her judgment and authority on works of art of all periods were extraordinary. She was well known as a lecturer throughout Europe and from 1954-61 was a visiting lecturer at the Sorbonne.

She was born in Amsterdam and studied at the universities of Leiden and Utrecht. After holding posts at Groningen and Utrecht, she was from 1951-59 University Lecturer in Indian



In 1935 she joined the BBC in Manchester and became known as a pianist, as a singer of everything from popular ballads to operatic arias, and as "Auntie Vi" on the then North Region's Children's Hour.

In 1946 she joined Wilfred Pickles quiz show, Have a Go! as pianist, became one of the interviewers and an occasional panellist in Women's Hour and eventually an effective character actress in radio plays; it was as an actress that she reached television in the 1950s.

The birth of Coronation Street - one of Granada Television's most powerful inspirations - in 1960 introduced Violet Carson to her alter ego Ena Sharples and made her a star whose skill responded without strain as the serial developed. She was highly convincing as the unredeemed dragon embodying the south-country myth of the aggressively rude thrower who confuses generosity and courtesy for hypocrisy and cowardice. Within the limits of Ena Sharples, Miss Carson created a characterization which could never be faulted.

Television has, perhaps, tended to overshadow the pleasures of what used to be called "the wireless" which nourished many older readers. It is sometimes forgotten how versatile were the performers who had more than one string to their bows, for example Violet, who was acting character parts long before television had become universal, on one occasion, called Violet's Day Out, played a piano concerto with the BBC Northern Orchestra; sang a piece from Bizet's Carmen; accompanied herself in a classical aria and rounded the whole performance off with some rollicking choruses from old-time music-hall.

She once said, a trifle sadly, "I don't want to be Sharples - that old bag - all my life. I want people to remember I'm Violet Carson."

whenever there was better available. He edited the Doughty Library for the publisher Antony Blond in the 1960s; this reprinted readable Victorian classics, and, in particular, it made Wilkie Collins's novel No Name available to a new generation of readers.

Van Thal invited the editor of a similar series under the auspices of a different publisher to lunch in order to hand over to him the list of books he would have added to his own series, and to talk about 19th century novels. Such was the man's generosity and love of books.

He was also editor of Cassell's First Novel Library. His own books included The Tops of the Mulberry Trees (1971), Belloc: A Biographical Anthology (1970), Landor: A Biographical Anthology (1973), and The Music Lover's Companion (1971).

Herbert van Thal was married to the former Phyllis Mary Bayley. He was one of the last genuine "bookmen", and as such, and for his gentleness, modesty and wide knowledge, he will be sadly missed.

Amsterdam she established the Institute of South and Southeast Asian Archaeology and was its Director until 1976. During that time she built up a splendid library and photographic collection. She returned to Cambridge in 1977 for a year's visiting fellowship at St Edmund's House.

Two of her further contributions deserve special notice. When a meeting was called in Cambridge in 1970 to establish a biennial conference of South Asian Archaeologists in Western Europe it was natural that she should have played a leading role, a role which she subsequently maintained by agreeing to act as permanent secretary for the conference.

In 1978 she became one of the founding trustees of the Ancient India and Iran Trust, and she planned to return to Cambridge after her retirement in 1984 so as to take a more active part in promoting the trust.

Her death robs the world of an unrivalled scholar, and those who know her of a dear and loyal friend.

Collect

Advertisement for 'January is the best time to collect' featuring 'The Antique Dealer & Collectors' and 'Britain's finest'.

فكرنا من الاصل

THE ARTS

The Arts Council must now renounce the faith of 40 years' work and adopt an altogether different role for the future. Bryan Appleyard investigates the threat - and the promise
A time for philosophy, but not for battle

It was a year in which the Arts Council finally decided it had to reach its fortieth birthday in 1985 with a degree of dignity. Until 1983 the old orthodoxy prevailed: public subsidy of the arts should increase annually, cash should be ready to "respond" to new developments, centres of excellence would spread across the nation while the identity of the fringe was preserved. In essence the Council was the primarily passive purveyor of the old welfare benevolence.

But for years the cash squeeze had been intensified. Money had stopped increasing, although the entire strategy of the Council dating back to the first chairmanship of Keynes was based on growth. Vast investments in both the arts and in the theatre had to be sacrificed, but at the same time the continuous clamour on behalf of new projects had somehow to be damped down.

What the Left should have understood and the Council now finally seems to have taken on board is that the Government does not want to cut money to the arts. Its mood has changed from indifference to mild enthusiasm. Efforts are being made to compile real statistics to show what really goes on. Total turnover figures for the arts and all peripheral industries have been put as high as £3-24,000m.

The initial inspiration for this change was the Select Committee Report published in 1982. The seriousness with which this took the arts as an industry and badge of national prestige began to turn the tide. It became clear that, far from simply being another unacceptable drain on the public purse, the arts had some splendid Tory virtues. They stimulated all kinds of markets and they offered a tangible "weight" to our national image.

This began with the consultative programme drawn up at Ilkley and involving all the Council's annual clients. The next phase was the negotiation of the total grant for 1984-85, which was announced last week. The key to this was to exploit the Priestley enthusiasm by raising extra money for the ROH and the RSC and the regional opera companies. And there was too the small overall increase.

Several things have not yet been spelled out. First the ROH and the RSC will be expected to implement the handful of Priestley-recommended economies during 1984-85. Thus in 1985-86 they will probably receive no further increase as the economies will be expected to account for inflation. Also less overall cash will be available to the rest of the clients because the Council will be holding a larger reserve than usual - perhaps £1m as opposed to £250,000.

result of Government moves to draw local authorities into funding these companies left out of the "national importance" list in the plans to disband the top tier councils. With luck these moves will come out in March 1984, providing Lord Gowrie and the Council with a large and very positive package of innovations. But blood will be split fairly steadily over the next two years. There will be insolvencies next year and many howls of protest in 1985. Yet in the long term the restructuring may result in more money and more companies. Certainly, if the decentralization side works, it will lead to more sustained pressure for greater artistic excellence across the regions.

Galleries in Los Angeles
Collectors in exciting context

There has been talk of the need for a museum of modern art in Los Angeles for almost as long as there has been of the need for a definitive Hollywood museum. At present it seems that the museum of modern art will make it first: at any rate, the Temporary Contemporary has opened in the Little Tokyo district just east of Downtown and the Music Centre - a slum area which is in the midst of a spectacular facelift and artification, with new SoHo/Wapping style loft facades appearing every week.



German Expressionist eye-opener: Youth Rising from the Dead by Milly Steger

The Temporary Contemporary has been surrounded by a blaze of publicity which leaves the locals eager to visit and desperately vague about exactly where it is: finally I found a policeman who knew because it is housed in what used to be the major downtown police garage. The space is spectacular: high and open, covered by a great single-span ceiling supported here and there with diagonal struts which have been cunningly made into quasi-sculptural features, and still retaining mysteriously mouldering pillars and other possibly movable parts which are not always easy to distinguish from the sculptures of Kienholz, Stella or Beuys strategically placed beneath. It is planned that this shall be the home of MOCA (it seems appropriate that conversationally MOMA in New York is a looming maternal presence, while MOCA in Los Angeles sounds like a flavour of ice cream) for two years, until its permanent home, designed by Arata Isozaki for nearby Bunker Hill, is ready.

home, it should be guaranteed knowledgeable and enthusiastic support from 1985 on. Meanwhile, though there seems to be no reason why any kind of competitive situation should exist, the County Museum has been put on its mettle, and has come up with a really epoch-making show: the first major exhibition anywhere in the world devoted exclusively to German Expressionist Sculpture (until January 22). Coming in the wake of a number of ambitious shows devoted to Expressionist painting and to individual painters of the movement, this show is bound to seem, at first blush, like a minor annex, a footnote, it may be interesting to read if you can be bothered to turn to the back of the book. But that would be radically to underestimate it. We probably know that many of the Expressionists interested themselves in more than one art-form, so it is no great surprise to encounter sculptures by artists we know best in other media, though it may well be surprising to find how confident and expressive are the sculptures of, say, Nolde, Kollwitz or Kirchner, or even that Schmidt-Rottluff emerges as an infinitely more interesting sculptor than painter, with a particularly personal and accomplished use of applied colour.

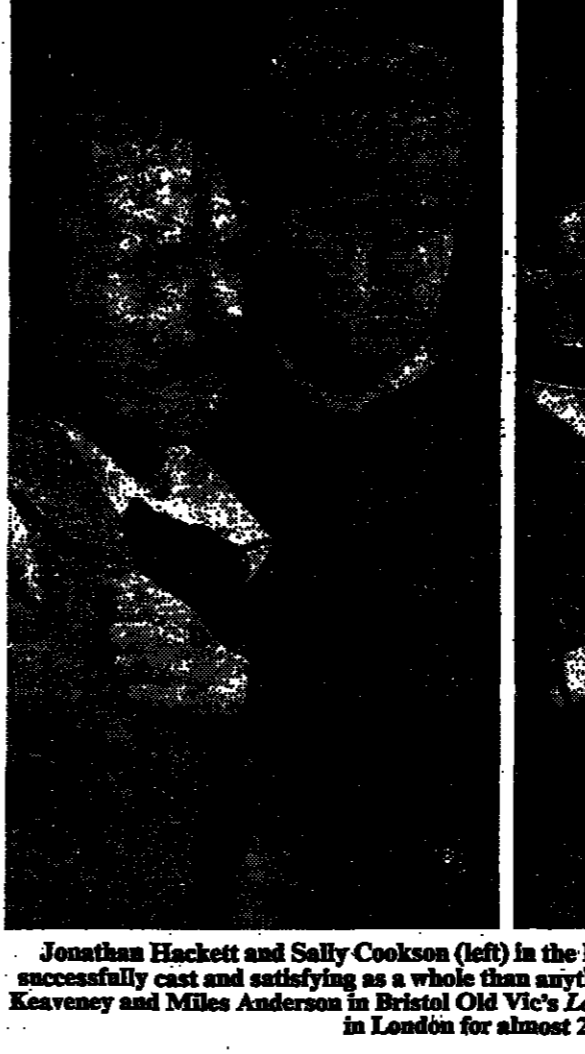
But the real eye-opener of the show is the work of those who specialized in sculpture to the virtual exclusion of other forms. We have heard of Barlach and Lehmbruck (though chances of seeing their work in the original are not necessarily so frequent), but who knows anything much (or anything at all) about artists such as William Wauer, shown here with a number of brilliant conventionalized portrait heads, or Milly Steger, whose few surviving sculptures suggest that she was the most talented of the several talented women represented, or the short-lived Hermann Scherer, whose large painted wooden figures carry further and most powerfully the Expressionist preoccupation with the effects of African and Oceanic carving?

All of these artists come fresh to us, often with their most important surviving works, and the collection superbly displayed, is usefully complemented by parallel graphic works and photographic records of the missing and destroyed.

John Russell Taylor

Anthony Masters discovers just how much theatrical London is missing
Critical need for the enjoyable sense of occasion

No slight to London, but the best single thing about progressing from theatre addict to theatre critic is the discovery, at first hand, of the dramatic pleasures outside the capital which you always knew were there. Only critics, agents and management scouts have the privilege of seeing London, pampered as it is with a wealth of West End and fringe theatre, in context - and then only partially. Reports from friends in places like Ipswich and Derby suggest that we miss a good deal by not seeing how well the humbler companies do Ayckbourn, the odd Shakespeare, *Educating Rita* or even *Ben*. But there are also bigger events to see: the production of Michael Elliot, producer of *Ibsen* in Manchester, Arthur Miller and Arnold Wesker premieres in Birmingham, striking new plays about Richard II (Exeter) or football (Southampton), or a Howard Barker political blockbuster in Sheffield.



Jonathan Hackett and Sally Cookson (left) in the Royal Exchange's *Wild Duck*, more successfully cast and satisfying as a whole than anything London could manage; and Anna Keaveney and Miles Anderson in Bristol Old Vic's *Love for Love*, a major play unperformed in London for almost 20 years

Only one of those "major events" has so far come to London. The West End's increased reliance on imports from out of town is obvious enough: handsome Chichester transfers at the Haymarket, *Daisy Pulls It Off* from Southampton, *Dear Anyone* from Birmingham, as well as contributions from Hampstead, the Hammersmith theatres, Greenwich, the King's Head and (of course), Broadway. But too much that is good in British theatre outside London never travels even a few miles.

When the Nation's cutbacks ended its regular use of the Lyttelton and Cottesloe as intermittent transfer houses in 1977, it was not only the end of a crucial connexion - in the Lyttelton's case - with foreign theatre which carried the torch from Peter Daubeny's World Theatre Seasons at the Aldwych and had already, in only two years, brought visits from Nuria Espert, the Berlin Schaubühne and the Théâtre National Populaire. It had also picked plants from other British theatres - Shakespeare and Ben Jonson productions by Stuart Burge from the Birmingham Rep, *Illuminatus* from Liverpool, showings by the Manchester Library and the Leicester Phoenix, to say nothing of the Glyndebourne *Don Giovanni*.

As a consequence, London's taste of regional quality is now more and more restricted to what looks commercial. Some transfers, like *34 Charing Cross Road*, achieve the success they deserve; others, like *When the Wind Blows* or *Nuts* or Mike Harding's delightful *One Night Stand*, fail to survive. But the really big fish get away altogether.

London will know his audience as a family, sometimes as a family, as his own family and his eye will be firmly fixed on it. Sometimes that is a frustrating limitation; few theatres can escape their due tribute to Agatha Christie and canny comedies. But it can also provide a sense of function and purpose: perhaps staging work of local interest, often historical, like the Vic at Stoke-on-Trent or indeed the RSC's unforgettable *The Tiller* this summer at Stratford-upon-Avon; perhaps (and this really should be compulsory) giving a vivid production of each year's O-level and A-level Shakespeare play which will pack the house.

Of course many out-of-London productions are not the same even if they do come in. *Blood Brothers*, which looked so crude and tatty down here, clearly would have had more atmosphere and significance in Liverpool even if had not had the ecstatic fall houses there that it did in fact enjoy. Oldham, despite being an awkward place to get to and offering the traveller little choice in hospitality (Mr Ronay's indefatigable inspectors recommend no establishment to stay or eat in), has the warmest, most appreciative atmosphere I have found in any theatre - the friendly, excited feel of the Richmond Theatre, is the nearest the London area can offer. But, after a hilarious evening there with Bill Tidy's *The Great Eric Ackroyd Disaster*, I doubted whether even that product would travel.

The alert sense of occasion which is ready for enjoyment but not uncritical: that is what I miss in London audiences (every night of the week, not just the artificially hysterical first-nighters) and that is what we need, as much as all the good productions London is missing out of town. How do we get it?

Thames's musical version of Kenneth Grahame's *Willow* is the *Willow*, adapted by Rosemary Anne Sisson and imaginatively animated by Cosgrove Hall Productions, proved once again last night that magic can be safely sought in the classics which, with a little invention - and there was much of that here - can be rewardingly refurbished.

Cosgrove Hall have deservedly won awards for their previous animations and a series of 13 20-minute episodes on *Willow* is in preparation. The models here were excellent and the animation was superb. The composers, Keith Hopwood, former lead guitarist for Herman's Hermits, and Malcolm Rowe, scored it well, seeking appropriate inspiration in the English pastoral themes of Vaughan Williams and, for *Toad*, in the cheekily jaunty rhythms of the Edwardian music-hall.

It was a pity, Christmas schedules being not all that fertile, that it overlapped another excellent animation on Channel 4 of George Eliot's *Silas Marner* by another prize-winning British animator, Alison de Vere. BBC2 pledged its peak time to the Bard with *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, directed by Don Taylor, who has apparently cherished the ambition to do the play since university. The advance publicity referred to it as a much under-rated play. If that is indeed the case, I thought that this production did nothing to invite re-appraisal.

Against the acting and invention of *Errors*, this production paled. Even its sets indicated a lack of investment and the forest looked more like a garlanded waterworks than a refuge for outlaw. Not a good night for William. Coming as it did three days after *The Comedy of Errors*, it invited comparison and fell further by it. The two gentlemen, John Hudson as Valentine and Tyler Butterworth as Proteus, had much earnestness, which gleamed rather obtrusively from the off-popped eyes of the former, but little conviction. The girls, Teresa Panko-Jones as the constant Julia and Joanne Pearce as Silvia, did better, inclining one to reflect that maturity may indeed come earlier to the female of the species.

As the long-suffering Jeffrey Fairbrother, Simon Cadell first appears as a later-day Cambridge archaeology professor numbly recalling the mad impulse that briefly led him to launch himself as an entertainment manager among this motley crew. Introduced in quick succession to Miss Pollard's buckets and the throbbing heart of Gladys Pugh (Ruth Madox), he brings a creative imagination to "binge-calling" ("On its own, 41") but comes into his own presently as Noel Coward singing "Mad Dogs and Englishmen".

That sequence, with all the principals doing yesterday's star impersonations, hardly comes off. But in no time the jangling comic (Jeffrey Holland), discarded earlier attires as a giant sauce bottle or a missionary, in a cauldron, reappears as a fairy godmother granting a vision of former jockey Felix Bowness winning the Derby, a rabby quiffed MC Paul Sur, and doing his Elvis bit, and the Stuart-Hargreaves (underlined in this show) at the Albert Hall, taking her 862 yards of nylon net and his undone flybouts triumphantly in their stride.

January issue...out now
The January issue of The Antique Dealer & Collectors Guide sets the tone for 1984 with its customary variety of articles for the informed collector, from a table silver to antique car models, plus a directory of Britain's specialist antique collectors' societies.
Also in this issue: Buying fine furniture. The history of Rouen lace. Victorian sewing cases.
The Antique Dealer & Collectors Guide
Britain's foremost journal for every antique and fine arts lover

THE LEOPARD
ZELIG
GATE MAYFAIR
ZELIG

Hi-de-Hi!
Victoria Palace
It is Ugly Bug Ball Night at Maplin's (anything to amuse the happy campers); never-quitte-made-it ballroom dancing champions Barry and Yvonne Stuart-Hargreaves (Barry Howard and Marie Lorraine) wear froxy smiles as Lord Stick-Insect and Lady Praying Mantis, the twins play caterpillars, Mr Ben Warriss (taking over Uncle Benjamin) staggers on as a spider, and doty little Peggy (Su Pollard) temporarily abandons her Ormo and Windolene to star as the front legs of a centipede. I cannot remember what started it all, or the pass-the-jerry-competition that sends Miss Pollard off in an ambulance with a pot wedged over her curly brows just above the spectacles, but it hardly matters. You know you are among friends.

John Piper
30 November-22 January
Piper is perhaps best known for his romantic landscape painting, but his work in stained glass, ceramics, fabrics and theatre design, now shown together for the first time, fully demonstrates his versatility.
Sponsored by Mobil
Admission £2.50 Weekdays 10-5.30 Weekends 2-5.30
Recorded Information 01-821 7128 Closed 23-26 December and 1 January
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Royal Ballet
Sainsbury's
Sadler's Wells Theatre
Christmas Season
28 December-14 January
20, 30, 31 Dec
Coppélia
2, 3, 4, 5 Jan
Giselle presented by St Anthony Variations
6, 7 Jan
The Taming of the Shrew
Eves 7.30, Sat Mat 2.30 Tickets £2.50-£10
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Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Dec 19. Dealings End, Dec 29. Contango Day, Dec 30. Settlement Day, Jan 9. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

WALL STREET PRICES & COMMENT THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Main table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, Gross Div, Div Yield, Capitalization, Company, and various financial metrics. Includes sub-sections for BRITISH FUNDS, MEDICINES, COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, DOLLAR STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

THE WEEK AHEAD

US banks may write off some foreign loans

New York (NYT) - The Federal Reserve Board has proposed that American banks be required to write off portions of loans to countries that are in serious financial trouble. Similar proposals are being issued by the other federal bank regulators.

ECONOMIC VIEW

SEC approves interest device

Washington (NYT) - The Securities and Exchange Commission has unanimously approved an accounting device to let companies dress up their financial condition and show higher earnings by wiping long-term debt off their balance sheets.

Table of MISCELLANEOUS and UNLISTED SECURITIES, including various company names and their market data.

Vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured, with text including 'Bonnie', 'foot', and 'The Golden'.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • USM REVIEW

Bumper trade with light casualties

Mr. Green would... Mr. Kelly... Mr. Green... Mr. Kelly... Mr. Green... Mr. Kelly...

At an eventful 1983... At the last count 204... At the last count 204... At the last count 204...

unfounded, although the... unfounded, although the... unfounded, although the... unfounded, although the...

purpose to attract small... purpose to attract small... purpose to attract small... purpose to attract small...

Securities

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, etc. Lists various securities and their performance.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, etc. Lists various securities and their performance.

Table with columns: Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield, etc. Lists various securities and their performance.

There is not always... There is not always... There is not always... There is not always...

American notebook Fed's freeze stays despite slow growth

Uncertainty about the... Uncertainty about the... Uncertainty about the... Uncertainty about the...

After rising to an... After rising to an... After rising to an... After rising to an...

This estimate gave... This estimate gave... This estimate gave... This estimate gave...

It was quickly... It was quickly... It was quickly... It was quickly...

What seems clear... What seems clear... What seems clear... What seems clear...

There is no indication... There is no indication... There is no indication... There is no indication...

Maxwell Newton

USM LEADERS FOR 1983

Table listing USM leaders for 1983 with columns: Mid Cap, Latest Price, Price Change, etc.

USM LAGGARDS FOR 1983

Table listing USM laggards for 1983 with columns: Mid Cap, Latest Price, Price Change, etc.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

Norges Kommunalbank

7 1/2% Guaranteed External Loan Bonds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

Table listing serial numbers of bonds to be redeemed, with columns: Serial Number, etc.

US bank paid £330m from Iran

Washington (AP-Dow Jones)... Washington (AP-Dow Jones)... Washington (AP-Dow Jones)...

The United States Treasury... The United States Treasury... The United States Treasury...

The bank received its... The bank received its... The bank received its... The bank received its...

Budget forecast assumes 4.5% growth in US

Washington (NYT) - President... Washington (NYT) - President... Washington (NYT) - President...

Unspecified, but implied... Unspecified, but implied... Unspecified, but implied...

The figures show an... The figures show an... The figures show an... The figures show an...

Mr. Martin Friedman... Mr. Martin Friedman... Mr. Martin Friedman... Mr. Martin Friedman...

White House economic... White House economic... White House economic... White House economic...

Promotion at Rothmans

Rothmans International... Rothmans International... Rothmans International...

J. Bibby & Sons... J. Bibby & Sons... J. Bibby & Sons... J. Bibby & Sons...

The Wine Development... The Wine Development... The Wine Development... The Wine Development...

Fitch & Company... Fitch & Company... Fitch & Company... Fitch & Company...

Swiss bankers expect recovery in gold price

Zurich (Reuters) - Gold... Zurich (Reuters) - Gold... Zurich (Reuters) - Gold...

But few investments... But few investments... But few investments... But few investments...

Most of the Swiss... Most of the Swiss... Most of the Swiss... Most of the Swiss...

Mr. Mathis Caballavetta... Mr. Mathis Caballavetta... Mr. Mathis Caballavetta... Mr. Mathis Caballavetta...

FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

Table listing fixed-interest stocks with columns: Stock, Price, Change, etc.

CRICKET: ONE CAPTAIN MARCHES ON WHILE ANOTHER COMES TO AN UNCELEBRIOUS HALT

Imran dour as a Boycott and fierce as a Richards

From Ian Brayshaw, Melbourne

Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain, at long last given doctor's permission to take part in the series, wasted no time in putting his stamp on proceedings on the second day of the fourth Test match against Australia here yesterday.

Three partnerships involving Imran set the standard. With the dashing Salim (they put on 27) and an equally enterprising Sarfaraz (with whom he added 28), Imran was prepared to take a supportive role. But when the chunky, bouncy Qadir came out to join him, Imran took charge to guide his partner through an early storm when the Australians threw everything at him and into his camp.

W Indies walk off in bottle protest

Madras (Agency) - The West Indies captain, Clive Lloyd, ordered his team off the field after a spectator threw a bottle which hit him in the chest yesterday.

Lloyd was persuaded by Indian officials to resume play 20 minutes later. He and his team were struggling at 69 for four in reply to West Indies' first innings total of 313.

The incident occurred in the last period of the first day's play. For two, Gavaskar hit the spin bowler Harper, for four. Davis went to pick up the ball and the bottle, thrown by a spectator who has not been identified, hit him high on the chest, officials said.



Lloyd: order to team

Yadav, was brought on from the other end. Holding greeted him with successive sixes over long-on and midwicket and hit a four in the same over.

Holding then turned his attention to Maninder and hoisted him over the midwicket boundary for another six. West Indies looked well placed, with the Marshall-Holding partnership going well, but they added just one run after lunch before Kapil Dev stepped in to dismiss them both, and Maninder got rid of Harper (12, 98).

Table with cricket statistics including batting and bowling records for West Indies and India.

A tame conclusion

Durban (Reuters) - The West Indian XI and South Africa XI drew their four-day match here yesterday with the Springboks making 59 without loss when they followed on in their second innings, 236 runs behind.

Laidlaw hopes dwindle

After 23 consecutive games for his country, Roy Laidlaw finds himself demoted to the junior side for Scotland's trial at Murrayfield on January 7.

Barbarians match could put Cardus back in reckoning

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The England selectors will gather at Leicester this evening to dot the i's and cross the t's on the two trial teams to play at Twickenham on January 7.

Which they could go for Cardus, which is where today's game becomes more relevant. The York Yorkshireman is at centre behind him, or going for an untried player such as Palmer (Bath) or Barley (Wakefield).

Richard Greenwood, England's coach, has had a close look at the four divisions at area squad training during the last month and has been much encouraged by the enthusiasm shown.

Swansea graceful as swans

By Gerald Davies

Swansea were back in top gear yesterday. On a gloomy, drizzling afternoon there were shades of the shimmering talent to show that all is not lost for them this year.

RUGBY UNION

Robertson's injury was a spring collocation, which has meant a slow convalescence: hence his position among the replacements. Another familiar name among the Whites is that of Kenwick, capped 51 times.

There are two other changes from the side who drew 25-23 with New Zealand last month. These are the back row where Bostie moves from the open side flank to his more accustomed position of No. 8 at the expense of another Lion, Paxton.

There is no doubt, however, that the Whites back row will give them a severe test, since the experience of Paxton and Leslie, who captains the junior side, is added to the raw enthusiasm of McCaughey, the No. 8, who has impressed as a flanker in the district championship.

Waterloo push Park clean off the rails

By Michael Stevenson

Flutters of optimism were again experienced by the home supporters when the stand-off half, Ferguson, jinked to within a couple of yards of the Waterloo line and the visitors' tackling in general and that of the admirable Gallagher in particular never faltered.



Imran did not once waver at the crease

Sri Lankan rebels appeal

Colombo (Reuters) - The Sri Lankan team which defied a government ban by touring South Africa last year has appealed to the government to lift a 25-year ban on the players.



Imran did not once waver at the crease

The iron nerve of two young Europeans

Paris (AFP) - Tom Watson, of the United States, the perennial favorite of the men who can keep their head while all around him are losing theirs, won his fifth Open Championship in nine years in 1983.

MOTOR RACING

Piquet at the centre of fuel protest

Maranello, Italy (AP) - The Ferrari team have filed a formal protest to the International Auto Federation (FISA) about "illegal" fuel used by Nelson Piquet in some recent races of the 1983 world Formula One championship.

Cool temperament

It was then that Watson's cool temperament came into its own, and he edged into the lead with a birdie from 15ft on the 16th and safely negotiated the last two holes with par figures for a slender one-stroke victory over two other Americans, Andy Bean and Hale Irwin.

Year of the underdog

With Nelson winning the US Open, and Hal Sutton the USPGA title, it was the year of the underdog, particularly for Sutton, aged 25, in only his second year on the tour.

New frontier

When Ballesteros won the Sun City Million Dollar Classic in early December, his tournament record, four-round total of 274, gave him a comfortable five-stroke victory over David Graham, of Australia, Faldo and Zoller, and with it a prize of \$300,000.

Birkenhead Park Waterloo

The dominant Mosey sound yesterday was the howling of the gale at Upper Park, where Birkenhead Park entertained their near neighbours Waterloo to lose a spirited and enjoyable contest by single penalty to a goal, three tries and a penalty.

Faldo: Member of the privileged class of one

course, which is due to open in April. There were a dozen or so golf courses in the People's Republic, mainly for the use of expatriates, from the United States and the grounds that it was a bourgeois pastime, and the courses are now all public parks.

Waterloo push Park clean off the rails

Flutters of optimism were again experienced by the home supporters when the stand-off half, Ferguson, jinked to within a couple of yards of the Waterloo line and the visitors' tackling in general and that of the admirable Gallagher in particular never faltered.

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Cardus: burly threat

useful things happening alicr the players have thought about it for a while," Greenwood said. "Not necessarily in the trial game but working among ourselves in squad sessions."

All the selectors have agreed on the principle of two sides being prepared by two coaches. Greenwood says of giving the Greenwoods side as hard a game as possible.

Swansea graceful as swans

By Gerald Davies

Swansea were back in top gear yesterday. On a gloomy, drizzling afternoon there were shades of the shimmering talent to show that all is not lost for them this year.

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Birkenhead Park Waterloo

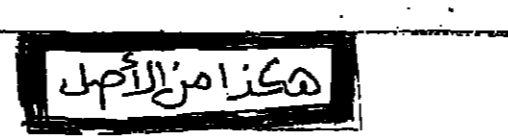
The dominant Mosey sound yesterday was the howling of the gale at Upper Park, where Birkenhead Park entertained their near neighbours Waterloo to lose a spirited and enjoyable contest by single penalty to a goal, three tries and a penalty.

Interpretation of rules is a perennial problem in motor racing, and a maximum effort should be made during the between-seasons period to resolve all such outstanding issues, whether they affect Formula One cars or drag and so on, and undermine the smooth running of future championships.

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Francome and Burrough Hill Lad complete Welsh coup

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Jenny Pitman continued her triumphant march as she trained the winner of the Coral Welsh National for the second year in succession...

brought a wheelbarrow big enough for my present. Francome added that Burrough Hill Lad was a very nice horse who had given him a really good feeling...



Happy habit: Jenny Pitman repeats her smile of 12 months ago after Burrough Hill Lad's Chesham success.

The Tsarevich earns right to lose squiggle

By John Kartar

For a horse who has won 10 races and who brought his total earnings to over £24,000 with a victory in yesterday's Ladbrokes Handicap Chase at Kempton Park...

The Tsarevich has also resented being restrained in the past, and yesterday the race was run to suit him on all counts...

Mossmorran lands a gamble

By Michael Seely

The extraordinary race-to-riches saga of Mossmorran continued at Wetherby yesterday, Michael Dickinson, the champion trainer, celebrated his triumphant return from Kempton by paying a visit to his local course...

credit that is going for his transformation of a moderate three-year-old into a horse who has won over six races and who will probably start favourite for the Ernest Robinson Hurdle at Cheltenham next week...

Karenmore, is better known in his role as advisor of bloodstock to Shaikh Mohammed. He sees the purchase not only of Shamsat Dancer, but also of the record £10.2m Northern Dancer yearling colt at Keeneland last July...

Australia expect Cash to deliver

By Paul McNamee

McNamee (center) and Paul McNamee, in what he called "the most exciting and dramatic match of the year"...

Harveystown underlines Irish novice strength

From Our Irish Correspondent

Further evidence that this year's crop of Irish novice chasers is the best for some years came at Leopardstown yesterday when Harveystown, the only novice in the field, proved too good for his dozen opponents...

were trying to give him weight. Royal Barge ran well under the weight but the unlucky horse at Leopardstown yesterday when Harveystown, the only novice in the field...

Fontwell Park

Racing results for Fontwell Park including 1.0 TORRINGHAM CHASE, 1.30 SALMON SPRAY HURDLE, 2.0 TATTERSALLS CHASE, 2.30 BRIGHTON HURDLE, 3.0 WHITE LAW CHASE.

Warwick

Racing results for Warwick including 1.0 BOB CRATCHIT HURDLE, 1.30 SCROOGE HURDLE, 2.0 EDWARD COURAGE CHASE, 2.30 TINY TIM HURDLE.

Newcastle

Racing results for Newcastle including 1.15 GROUSE HURDLE, 1.45 GAME BIRD CHASE, 2.15 NORTHUMBRIA CHASE.

Results from four meetings

Summary of racing results from Chepstow, Wetherby, and Kempton.

YACHTING

Leap-frog with the Panda

Throughout Monday night and Tuesday the British team in the Southern Cross Cup, sponsored by Hitachi, have played leap-frog with the New South Wales team...

Fontwell selections

1.0 French Bob, 1.30 Cut A Dash, 2.0 Prescena Wood, 2.30 Waterhead, 3.0 Athagadery Run, 3.30 Ula Wood.

Warwick selections

1.0 Salmon, 1.30 Prescena Wood, 2.0 Half Free, 2.30 Skylander, 3.0 Green Bramble, 3.30 Brambling.

Newcastle selections

1.15 Ballygo, 1.45 Tumble Jim, 2.15 Ballygo, 2.45 Eboracum, 3.15 Pacific.

Wetherby selections

1.15 Ballygo, 1.45 Tumble Jim, 2.15 Ballygo, 2.45 Eboracum, 3.15 Pacific.

Kempton selections

1.15 Ballygo, 1.45 Tumble Jim, 2.15 Ballygo, 2.45 Eboracum, 3.15 Pacific.

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MARRIAGES... TURNER... On December 28th at 12.30pm in the Parish Church...

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ANTIQUE AND COLLECTABLES... ENTERTAINMENTS... CONCERTS

ENTERTAINMENTS... CONCERTS... THEATRES

Holmes can stir up this murky alphabet soup

New York (NYT) - In recent years boxing champions have been identified as if they were physicians or scholars...

Reluctant... "I just want to be free," Holmes said recently. "I don't want a promoter telling me what to do."

Champions... In all the boxing divisions now, there are only two undisputed champions...

Spartan fare for bantams... Campobasso, Italy (Reuter) - Festive treats have been denied Walter Giorgetti, of Italy...

Feeney: third time lucky?... on meeting Fossati again and had found out only recently that the title had passed to Giorgetti...

CHRISTMAS DEADLINES... 29 December, 22 December, 5 pm; 2 January, 19 December, 5 pm; 3 January, 29 December, 5 pm; 4 January, 29 December, 5 pm

Vertical strip of small advertisements on the right edge of the page, including 'BBC 1', 'P.A./Office Manager', 'SUPER SECRETARIES', 'PROPERTY SOUTH OF THE THAMES', 'WOODSTOCK, OXFORDSHIRE', 'NORTH OF THAMES', 'TADDINGTON MIDDX.', 'COUNTRY PROPERTY', 'COTSWOLDS', 'OFFERS OVER £130,000', 'GERRARDS CROSS', 'COSTA DEL SOL', 'MIJAS, COSTA DEL SOL', 'KENNETH WARD & COMPANY', 'ANTIQUE AND COLLECTABLES', 'ENTERTAINMENTS', 'CONCERTS', 'THEATRES'.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

- 6.30 Ceefax AM, News headlines, weather, traffic and sports bulletin. Also available via video...

tv-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. The morning papers reviewed at 6.25; news at 6.30...

ITV/LONDON

- 8.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street in which the Muppets make learning a bit of fun...



Virginia McKenna in The Case of the Frightened Lady. BBC 2 8.15pm

CHOICE

sure to appeal to the many millions of tourists who are drawn to the 900 square mile area every year...

BBC 2

- 1.40 Film Presenting Lily Mars (1943) starring Judy Garland and Van Heflin...

CHANNEL 4

- 1.00 Musicians. A documentary about the Sri Lankan brothers, Rohan and Druru de Saram...

Radio 4

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News Briefing. 6.35 Daybreak with Charles Colville.

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather, 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. Part one. Coleridge-Taylor (An Christmas Overture).

RADIO 2

- News on the hour (except 8.00 and 8.30pm). Major bulletins 8.55am, 9.00am, 12.00pm, 1.30pm, 2.00pm, 4.00pm, 5.30pm...

RADIO 1

- News on the hour (except 8.00 and 8.30pm). Major bulletins 8.55am, 9.00am, 12.00pm, 1.30pm, 2.00pm, 4.00pm, 5.30pm...

WORLD SERVICE

- 6.00am News. 7.00 World News. 7.30 News. 8.00am News. 8.30 World News. 9.00am News. 9.30 World News. 10.00am News. 10.30 World News...

BORDER

- AS London, except: 1.20pm-1.30pm News. 6.00-6.35 Look Around. 12.10pm News. Closedown.

CENTRAL

- AS London, except: 1.20pm-1.30pm News. 2.30-3.30 David Frost presents The Guinness Book of British Records Crossroads. 6.35-7.00pm News. 12.10pm Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

1 Star: A black and white, 1 Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.9kHz/285m; 106.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 683kHz/433m; 90.9kHz/330m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 150m; VHF 92-95; LBC 152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 164.8kHz/194m; VHF 95.5; BBC Radio London 145.8kHz/266m; VHF 94.5; World Service FM 84.8kHz/463m.

OPERA & BALLET

- AMERICAN BALLET COMPANY: Now playing 'The Nutcracker' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Ballet Royal de Monte Carlo: 'Les Sylphides' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

THEATRES

- ALICE THROUGH THE MIRROR: 'Alice Through the Mirror' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. ANIMALS: 'Animals' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

THEATRES

- 1984 OSCAR NOMINEES: 'The Frightened Lady' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. 'The Firm' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

THEATRES

- THE GREAT ESCAPE: 'The Great Escape' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. THE SPY WHO SHOT ME: 'The Spy Who Shot Me' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

THEATRES

- THE PLAYERS: 'The Players' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. THE LAST OF US: 'The Last of Us' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

CINEMAS

- ALICE THROUGH THE MIRROR: 'Alice Through the Mirror' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. ANIMALS: 'Animals' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

